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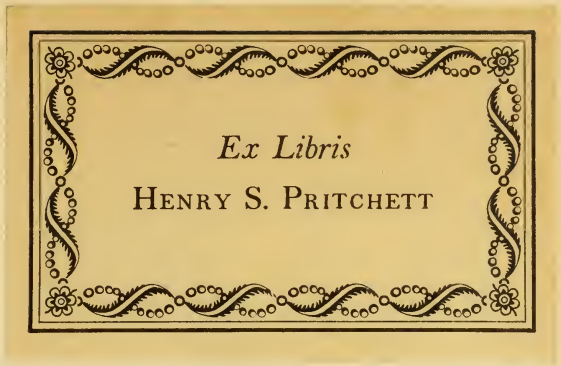

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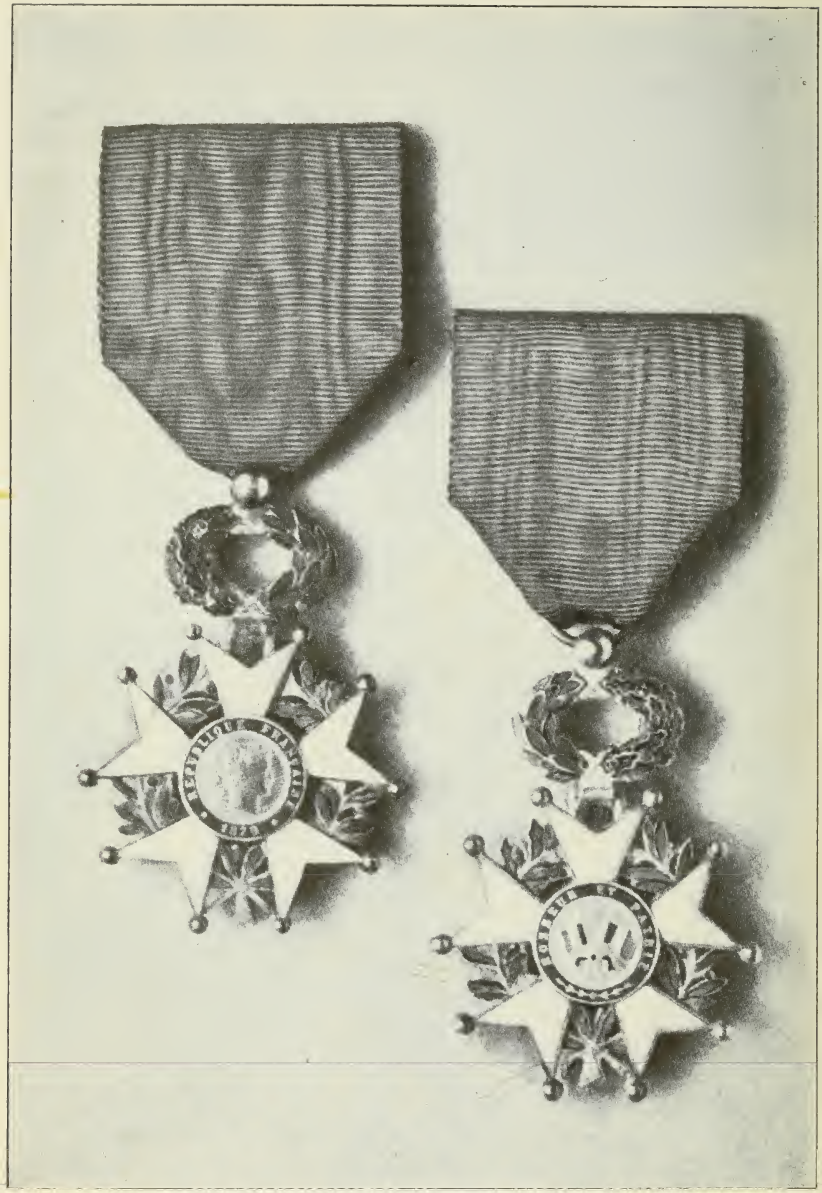

THE CROSS OF THE LEGION OF HONOR AS IT IS TO-DAY

NAPOLEON'S LEGION

HONNEUR ET PATRIE

By

W. FRANCKLYN PARIS

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1928

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INTRODUCTION

NAPOLEON I WITH CROWN AND SCEPTER

From Gérard's Portrait in the National Gallery at Versailles

INTRODUCTION

" . . . quis enim virtutem amplectitur ipsam,
Præmia si tollas?" —*Juvenal.*

HONNEUR ET PATRIE, the words which are the motto of the National Order of the Legion of Honor of France, and are embroidered upon the French regimental flag, voice an ideal than which none is higher or more inspiring. The oath taken by the athletes participating in the Olympic games — "We swear that we enter into competition in a spirit of loyalty, respectful of the rules that govern the contest and desirous of participating therein in a spirit of chivalry and for the greater honor of our country" — contains the same inspiration, the motive for supreme effort for a reward purely spiritual.

In his imaginary dialog between Solon and Anacharsis, Lucian explains the virtue of these games and their effect in developing in Greek youths the spirit of bravery, the yearning for glory, and the resolve to conquer on the field of battle in defense of Country — after having fought and conquered in the stadium to gain no more precious reward than a

wreath of olive-leaves. In this dialog Solon explains to Anacharsis that the extraordinary expenditure of courage, the desperate struggle, the putting forth of the very last ounce of strength, all for a twig of foliage, is not as ridiculous as might at first appear to a traveler from Scythia. "The prizes are not to be despised," says Solon, "since they consist in receiving the acclamations and applause of all the spectators; in being pointed out in the crowd as the bravest, or the fleetest, or the strongest. Among the spectators a great many, still of an age to take up the exercises which they have witnessed, will go home burning with a new love for glory and eager to join in the labors that procure it. If we were to banish from life the love of glory, what would be left of any value? Who would risk his life in the performance of a perilous act? Can you not imagine, after having witnessed these games, how these young men will act when, with arms in hand, they face the enemy of their country, if for so little as a branch of foliage they have shown so much courage and so much intent after victory?"

The same sentiment is expressed by Juvenal in his tenth Satire when he asks: "Who is there that will embrace virtue for itself if the rewards that accompany virtue are withheld?"

When Bonaparte was recalled from Egypt to combat the collective mediocrity of revolutionary France

at war with excellence, he saw at once that he would have to enthrone force in order to gain efficiency. He needed obedience. This obedience he had obtained from his army, not grudgingly or in the spirit of slaves submitting to a tyrant, but spontaneously and willingly, in a spirit of cooperation born of admiration and confidence. This admiration and this confidence he had won by playing upon feelings deep-imbedded in the French soul. The soldiers, whom he had led in Italy from victory to victory, he had stirred by flaming words, by extolling courage and rewarding it, and by publicly withering the lack of it. To a detachment which had allowed itself to be stampeded at Rivoli, he issued the following proclamation:

"Soldiers of the Thirty-ninth and Eighty-fifth Infantry, you are no longer fit to belong to the French Army. You have shown neither discipline nor courage, you have allowed the enemy to dislodge you from a position where a handful of brave men could have stopped an army. The Chief of Staff will cause to be inscribed upon your regimental flags 'These men are no longer of the Army of Italy.' "

No commander was ever in more direct contact with his troops. Pride, and the public gratification of it through proclamations and rapid advancement, was the sentiment upon which he worked and which made him the idol of the men in the ranks.

Called upon to rule over the nation, he utilized the same methods that had served him so well with his troops. The revolutionary ideal of equality had not killed the ineradicable sense of individuality latent in the French temperament. The same ambition for self-betterment and advancement present in the army, was present also in the other ranks of society. The Revolution abolished the nobles and destroyed the rank and precedence acquired by inheritance, but deep down in the consciousness of the people was a respect for excellence, when this excellence was self-acquired.

The arms of honor which the Revolution had distributed as rewards of valor had sufficed as recompense for the army, but no provision had been made to reward the services of a non-military character rendered to the nation. It was to remedy this, that Napoleon conceived the formation of a national order which, when conferred, would provide an outward symbol gratifying to the pride of its possessor and raising to the same level meritorious service whether rendered on the field of battle or in public or private life.

In discussing his project for the creation of the Legion of Honor with Berlier, one of the members of the Council of State who disapproved an institution deemed by him contrary to the Republic, he revealed his faith in a government based not upon equality

NAPOLEON WEARING THE COLLIER OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

From an Oil Painting by Baron Gérard in the Royal Gallery at Dresden

but upon the placing of power in the hands of an élite especially fitted to govern.

"You tell me," said he, "that class distinctions are baubles utilized by monarchs. I defy you to show me a republic, ancient or modern, in which distinctions have not existed. You call these medals and ribbons baubles; well, it is with such baubles that men are led. I would not say this in public, but in an assembly of wise statesmen it should be said. I do not believe that the French people love Liberty and Equality. The French have not been changed by a mere ten years of Revolution. They are swayed by but one sentiment — Honor. It behooves us, therefore, to feed and develop this sentiment. The people clamor for distinction. See how the crowd is awed by the medals and orders worn by foreign diplomats. We must recreate these distinctions. There has been too much tearing down; we must rebuild. A government exists, yes, and power; but the nation itself — what is it? Scattered grains of sand.

"We have among us those that belonged to the ancient privileged classes. They are organized on the basis of their interests and know well what they want. I can count my enemies; but *we* are scattered, without system, without contact, without reunion. As long as I am at the helm of things I answer for the fate of the Republic, but we must foresee the future. Do you believe that the Republic now

rests upon a solid base? If so you are much mistaken. But we can place it upon a firm foundation. In order to do so we must plant a few masses of granite as anchors in the soil of France."

Arriving upon the scene during a period of disorder and anarchy, with all industry paralyzed and the laboring class steeped in poverty born of idleness, Bonaparte aspired to restore order. Three social classes were suffering from unrest and the apprehension of a counter-revolution. The bourgeoisie, or ruling middle class, feared to lose the power which, in the time of its intoxication with the ideals of liberty and equality, it had wrested from the so-called privileged classes. The artizans and city workers wanted their newly acquired rights maintained, but they also wanted bread and they were ready to work for it, if work was found for them. The peasants who had bought lands taken from the clergy and the nobles wanted to have the ownership of these lands assured. All were tired of strife and desired a return to civil peace and an end of internal dissensions. Everywhere was hatred and suspicion; political quarrels, religious quarrels, social quarrels divided the nation.

Himself a creature of the Revolution, Bonaparte did not repudiate its essential principles. He employed a great many of the men who had been instrumental in the overthrow of privilege, but he was careful to consign to oblivion and inactivity those

who had abused their brief authority by violence and political murder. His was a work of conciliation, the restoration of civil peace between political parties as between classes. It was he who refused to perpetuate the Place de la Révolution, gory with the blood of the King and Queen and of hundreds of Frenchmen and Frenchwomen, and renamed it the Place de la Concorde.

The churches had been closed and the priests banished. The Republican calendar had abolished Sunday. Bonaparte recalled the clergy and reinstated nine archbishops and forty-one bishops. The accord with Rome was celebrated by a high pontifical mass held in Notre Dame and attended with great pomp by the First Consul and the high dignitaries of the Government.

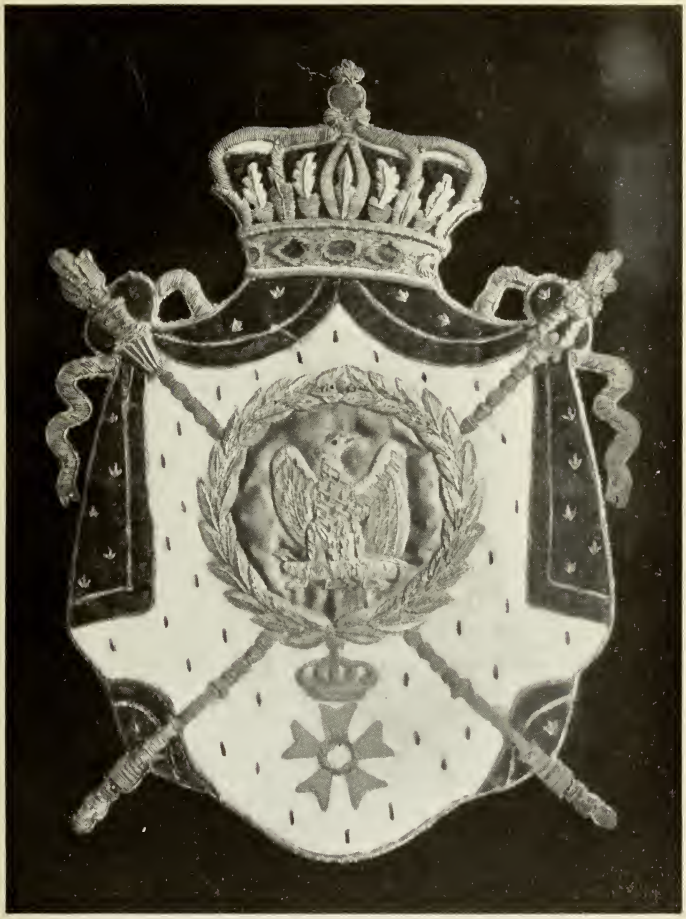
Altho his accession to power had been an act of force, Bonaparte's dissolution of the Legislative Council and his ejection of its members from the Hall of Assembly by his grenadiers received the formal approval of the Nation six weeks later, when 3,001,107 votes were cast accepting the new Constitution. Considering that the Constitution of 1793 had received only 1,801,918 approving votes, it will be seen that the *coup d'état* of the 18th Brumaire was not an act of usurpation but an expression of popular sentiment. Upon assuming control of the Government, Bonaparte had said: "We constitute a new

epoch. Of the past let us remember the good, and forget the evil."

Until Bonaparte's seizure of power the Republic had issued its various calls to arms in the name of Liberty. Bonaparte's first proclamation, announcing England's rejection of his peace offers and calling for new recruits for the army, was made in the name of a new incentive, Honor. "Let the young men of the nation rally to its defense," he said; "they will not be fighting to preserve the interests of a party or of a faction, or in response to the will of a tyrant. They will be fighting for what is dearest to their hearts, the honor of France and the sacred interests of Humanity."

On May 6, 1800, he left Paris for that brilliant campaign in Italy which he concluded in forty days. His return to Paris was marked by a frenzy of enthusiasm, and when in 1802 the treaty of Amiens marked the pacification of Europe, the French people saw in Bonaparte, "the beloved son of victory," not only a military hero, but a political genius who had brought order out of chaos, restored the spirit of fraternity among all Frenchmen, revived industry, and raised the nation to a plane of prosperity never before enjoyed.

It is said that republics are ungrateful. The France of 1802, however, proposed to show its appreciation of the many benefits which had accrued to the nation by



THE IMPERIAL COAT OF ARMS
Museum of the Legion of Honor

reason of Bonaparte's wisdom and genius as an administrator. The Senate proposed that the term of Bonaparte as First Consul should be extended for life. On this proposition 3,577,259 citizens voted; and of that number 3,568,885 voted in the affirmative, thereby confirming Bonaparte almost unanimously as ruler of the destinies of France for life.

The speech of Barthélemy, spokesman for the Senate, notifying him of the result of the vote, was as fulsome an oration as ever monarch heard from subservient courtiers.

"In placing permanently in your hands the highest office in the state," said he, "the nation acquires your services for the remainder of your existence. A new career begins for you. After prodigies of valor and the display of the highest military talents you have brought the war to an end and obtained most honorable conditions of peace. Frenchmen under your guidance have assumed the character and attitude of true greatness. You are the restorer of order and in three years you have made us forget that period of anarchy and public calamity which threatened to dry up forever the sources of public prosperity. The proclamation of Bonaparte as Perpetual Consul is an augury of the future prosperity and happiness of all Frenchmen. Under your inspiration they are ready to respond to the impulse of glory and the sentiment of national greatness."

In his reply to this speech, Napoleon used the words "Liberty and Equality," but the word Republic was not mentioned. He does not wear a crown as yet, but the biggest and most famous of the crown jewels, the large diamond known as "the Regent," is set into his sword-hilt, and when he rides to Notre Dame to attend the *Te Deum* in celebration of the Concordat it is in a gilded coach drawn by eight horses. To Josephine, asking him, "How soon will you make me Empress of Gaul?" he replies, laughing, "Little Josephine an Empress! that *would* be funny." But he established a sort of court about her and named four ladies-in-waiting to attend her, each in turn taking up residence at the Tuileries for a week. Four "Prefects of the Palace" were also appointed, and it is to be noted that the attendants chosen, both for Josephine and for himself, were *ci-devant* nobles and nearer to the throne than to the *sans-culottes*. The Dames du Palais were: Mme. de Rémusat, Mme. de Talhouet, Mme. de Luçay, and Mme. de Lauriston. The four prefects were: Messrs. de Rémusat, Legendre de Luçay, de Beausset, and de Saint-Didier.

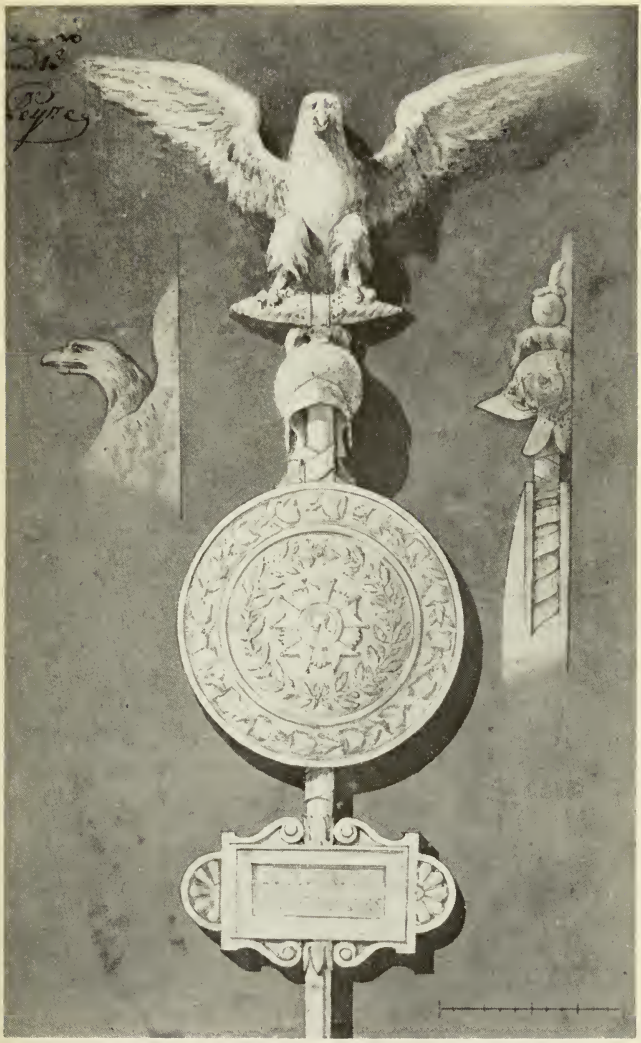
While still insisting upon being addressed as "citizen," the First Consul was already acting upon his conviction that "Equality" as the guiding spirit of a republic was a delusion and a false doctrine, contrary to the natural aspirations of all mankind for advancement and distinction. Ever an advocate of the

merit system, he conceived the term "Equality" to signify equality of opportunity. Whereas in royal days the army had been commanded exclusively by nobles, the proportion being one officer for every four privates, his own army was officered by men who had risen to their commands through personal merit. While Davout, Macdonald, Berthier, Marmont, had been officers in royal regiments, and in a sense aristocrats, Masséna, Augereau, Murat, Victor, Ney, Oudinot, Moncey, Soult, Lefebvre, Bernadotte, had risen from the ranks. Others had become soldiers spontaneously, overnight, in response to the cry "To arms!" raised in 1792. Among these volunteers were Lannes, Mortier, Suchet, Bessières, Brune, Gouvion-Saint-Cyr, all "sons of tailors and cobblers" engaged in a stupendous adventure, a war for Liberty fought to the cry, "Vive la Nation!" in which thirty thousand voices singing the *Marseillaise* almost drowned the cannonade of the enemies' artillery. Of this breed were Marceau, Kléber, Joubert, Desaix, Moreau, and Hoche — men owing their advancement to military qualities demonstrated in forty battles. The principle that established them generals before they had attained their thirtieth year was the principle of efficiency and fitness.

When Napoleon called into employment in his budding court the nobles of the *ancien régime* it was in obedience to the same guiding principle of placing

each man in the position he was best fitted to fill. He was not acting upon an impulse born of vanity so much as he was continuing his work of fusing together all classes of the nation. There was to be equality of opportunity even for the nobles.

The France of Napoleon lived fifteen years in acceptance of authority, obedient to the rule of discipline and ardent in the cult of greatness. No period in the history of France approaches in idealism, in loftiness of spirit and exaltation, the short interval during which Napoleon Bonaparte controlled that nation's destinies. He had said on assuming power: "Places in the Government will be open to all Frenchmen, no matter what their opinions, provided only that they possess knowledge, capacity, and virtue." In welcoming back into the fold the leaders of the Vendée insurrection he had said: "Come to me; my Government will be a government by Youth and by Intelligence." At all times he gave employment to every capacity, every competence, and because he asked of those whom he employed only what was in their power to give and what was in their ability to know, he secured from them the maximum of what they had to give and of what they knew. Thibaudeau has recorded that in a conversation held with him in 1800 Bonaparte had told him: "Altho I am young in years, I am old in my knowledge of the human heart." Schopenhauer, after a



INSIGNIA OF NAPOLEON'S COHORTS

few minutes' conversation with the Emperor at Erfurt, exclaimed: "Bonaparte is truly the finest manifestation of human will that has ever existed."

Whenever war, forced upon him by his effort to maintain France in a position of supremacy, gave him a respite, he devoted his talents to internal administration, and he has left behind him, as lasting as his military fame, such monuments as the Code Napoléon, the Bank of France, the Legion of Honor, and a work of rebuilding which included ports and roadways, bridges and canals, commerce and industry. He it was who placed France in the position of the most prosperous as well as the most powerful nation in the world.

Because Bonaparte was "old in knowledge of the human heart," and particularly of the French heart, which he had set vibrating by his victories and the appanages of glory that accompanied them; because he had seen men go to their deaths smiling under the stimulus of a song; because he had seen his soldiers outdo one another in heroism in order to gain a gold stripe on their sleeve or gay-colored plumes on their hats, or those arms of honor which the Revolution had distributed in place of titles; because of all this, he instituted the Legion of Honor, a "bauble," but a most powerful symbol described by poets as a white jewel flowing from a red wound.

I

WHAT PRICE GLORY?

THE THIRST FOR GLORY — STIMULUS PROVIDED BY HONORIFIC DISTINCTIONS — THE LEGION OF HONOR AS A REWARD FOR CIVIC AS WELL AS MILITARY SERVICES — FRENCH ORDERS OF CHIVALRY AND ROYAL AND MILITARY ORDERS WHICH HAVE DISAPPEARED — ARMS OF HONOR — PROPOSAL TO MAKE LEGION OF HONOR HEREDITARY — REASON FOR ITS REMAINING THE MOST DESIRABLE OF ALL OUTWARD SYMBOLS OF MERIT.

From a Colored Epinal Print

NAPOLEON CONFERRING THE LEGION OF HONOR CROSS UPON OBERKAMPF

I

WHAT PRICE GLORY?

JUVENAL points out in his tenth Satire that even in his day the armor of an enemy, his broken helmet, the flag ripped from a conquered trireme, were treasures valued beyond all human riches. It is to obtain these tokens of glory, he says, that generals, be they Roman, Greek, or barbarian, brave a thousand perils and endure a thousand exertions. "Man," says Juvenal, "thirsts more for glory than for virtue."

Instead of abolishing the rewards of virtue, Bonaparte made of the reward of merit a state policy. When he removed from his own tunic the cross of the Legion of Honor to pin it to the coat of Oberkampf, the discoverer of the printing process by which the famous *toiles de Jouy* were manufactured, or performed the same gesture in decorating Delessert, the inventor of the process for the extraction of sugar from beets, he recognized virtue and public service rendered elsewhere than on the field of battle.

"I take pleasure in rewarding those who serve the country as you do," he told Oberkampf; "it is

in ateliers like yours that is waged the best kind of war against the enemy: a war that does not cost a single drop of blood."

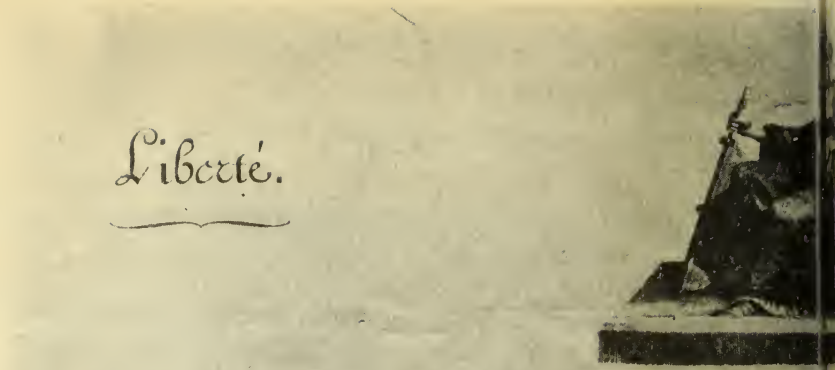
Thus early in its existence the Legion of Honor rewarded service elsewhere than on the field of battle; but the glamour that attaches to the little strip of red ribbon worn unobtrusively in the buttonhole of the coats of many men in many countries derives its prestige from the fact that the "bauble" which it symbolizes is something that has been died for on many fields by many heroes.

There is something within us that is thrilled at thought of those

> ". . . lonely antagonists of Destiny
> That went down scornful before many spears,"

in pursuit of this "bauble." Oberkampf and Delessert, receiving the cross from Bonaparte — wearing the same insignia proudly displayed by the Little Corporal, the demigod of the time; the same ribbon and the same jewel worn by Ney, the "bravest of the brave"; by Murat, the fiery and resplendent cavalryman; and lower down in the social scale, but on the same level heroically, by the drummer-boys who led the way over the bridge at Arcole — must have glowed with a pride martial in character, even tho their exploits were of a peaceful nature.

The romantic character of the entire Napoleonic period — its spectacular and dramatic pageantry, the



Au nom du

Brevet

Pour le Citoyen Jean Mar

Bonaparte, premier Consul de la R

Distingué et de la bravoure éclatante du C.en Jean Martin

à l'affaire qui eut lieu à Siberac le 19 floréal an 8, n'étant alo

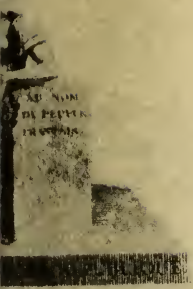
Lui décerne, à titre de récompense nationale, Un

Il jouira des prérogatives attachées à ladite récompense par la

Donné à Paris, le vingtième Floréal an

Le Ministre de la Guerre,

BREVET ACCOMPANYING AWARD OF SWORD OF HONOR, SIGNED BY BON



Egalité.

uple Français.

Bonneau
Général

blique, d'après le compte qui lui a été rendu de la conduite

ur Bonneau.

ité du 4 Nivôse an 8.
e. de la République française.

Le premier Consul,

Par le premier Consul,
Le Secrétaire d'Etat,

RTE AS FIRST CONSUL AND DATED "YEAR ELEVEN OF THE REPUBLIC"

emergence from obscurity of scores of picturesque heroes that wrote history with their swords — has served to keep alive the prestige attached to the Legion of Honor.

Before its creation, there had existed in France various orders of chivalry designed to reward devotion to the King or acts of valor performed in the service of the state. Speaking of these, Montaigne has written as follows:

"It was a pretty invention and received into most governments of the world, to institute certain vain and insignificant distinctions to honor and recompense virtue; such as the crowns of laurel, oak, and myrtle, the particular fashion of some garment, the privilege of riding in a coach in the city, or of having a torch by night; some peculiar place assigned in public assemblies; the prerogative of certain additional names and titles; certain distinctions in their bearing of coats of arms, and the like; the use of which, according to the several humors of nations, has been variously received, and does yet continue. We, in France, as also several of our neighbors, have the orders of knighthood, instituted only for this end. And 'tis in earnest a very good and profitable custom to find out an acknowledgment for the worth of rare and excellent men; and to satisfy their ambition with rewards that are not at all chargeable either to prince or people.

"And that which has been always found both by ancient experience, and that we ourselves may also have observed in our own times, that men of quality have ever been more jealous of such recompenses than of those wherein there was gain and profit, is not without very good ground and reason. If with reward, which ought to be simply a recompense of honor, they shall mix other emoluments, and add riches, this mixture, instead of procuring an increase of estimation, would vilify

and abate it. The Order of St. Michael, which has been so long in repute amongst us, had no other nor greater commodity than that it had no communication with any other; which produced this effect, that formerly there was no office, nor title whatever, to which the gentry pretended with so great desire and affection, as they did to that; nor quality that carried with it more respect and grandeur; virtue more willingly embracing, and with greater ambition, aspiring to a recompense truly her own, and rather honorable than beneficial; for in truth, the other rewards have not so great a dignity of usage, by reason they are laid out upon all sorts of occasions. With money a man pays the wages of a servant, the diligence of a courier, dancing, vaulting, speaking, and the vilest offices we receive; nay, and rewards vice with it too; and therefore 'tis no wonder if virtue does less desire and less willingly receive this common sort of payment, than that which is proper and peculiar to her, throughout generous and noble."

The Order of Saint Michael has disappeared. So also has the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, founded at the end of the eleventh century, and of which the members subsequently became known as the Knights of Rhodes and of Malta. The Order of the Templars, founded in Palestine by the French in 1118, was abolished in 1312 in a general council presided over by Pope Clement V and King Philippe le Bel. The Order of the Holy Sepulchre, created, according to legend, by Godfrey de Bouillon in 1099, the members of which were supposed to guard the tomb of Christ, and the Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, founded about the middle of the twelfth century and fused in 1608 with the Order of Our

MANTLE OF THE ORDER OF THE HOLY GHOST

Museum of the Legion of Honor

Lady of Mount Carmel created by Henry IV, have also departed.

Subsequent to these orders, emanating from the Crusades, came several of a purely political or monarchic significance. The first of these was the Order of the Star, created in 1351 by Jean II of France in imitation of the Order of the Garter, which had been recently created by his rival Edward III of England.

Then came the Order of Saint Michael, created in 1469 by Louis XI. This order, suppressed at the time of the French Revolution, was reestablished in 1816 by Louis XVIII, but passed from circulation in 1830.

Next came the Order of the Holy Ghost, created by Henry III in 1578. It suffered the same fate as the Order of Saint Michael and ceased to exist in 1831.

After it came the Order of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, created by Henry IV in 1607 and confirmed by Louis XIV and Louis XV. Like the other royal orders, it passed into history in 1830.

The Order of Saint Hubert, created in 1416, was abolished by Louis XVIII in 1824.

The Royal and Military Order of Saint Louis was the first of the royal orders to which could be admitted officers and public servants not belonging to the nobility. It was founded by Louis XIV in

1693 "to reward military merit without distinction of birth." It was still aristocratic in character, in the sense that only officers in the Army and Navy could receive it. The order was finally abolished officially in 1830, but it had the unique distinction of having survived the early period of the Revolution because of the feature in its statutes which made it open to all without distinction of birth. In July, 1791, however, the Revolution abolished all distinctions tending to impair the principle of Equality, and the Cross of Saint Louis went the way of its predecessors and was no more, until restored by Louis XVIII.

The radicals of that day wanted to make all men of equal stature by cutting off the heads of giants, thereby reducing all to the stature of dwarfs. To destroy ambition and the desire to excel is to reduce man to the level of the ox. Nations live by their ideas and ideals, and these are expressed by images. The demagogs of the Revolution, by destroying all symbols, were destroying all ideals. Against all inciting and inspiring thoughts they cried, "Vanity!" Against all the glorious motives they cried, "Nonsense!" Against all the tender sentiments they cried "Poetry!"

The soul of France, however, was ever a martial soul, quick to respond to such ideals as honor and bravery. The apostles of Equality themselves found it necessary to create some outward symbol with

SWORD OF HONOR, WITH GRENADE

MUSKET OF HONOR

which to reward the soldiers of the nation who had rendered "extraordinary services in fighting for the Republic." This led to the creation of Arms of Honor, rifles, sabers, muskets, boarding-axes (for the navy), bugles, drumsticks, grenades, etc., on which were silver mounts bearing the names of those to whom the trophy was conferred and the act which justified the award.

By the time the Legion of Honor was instituted, these Arms of Honor, which carried with them a supplementary grant in army pay of one cent a day, had reached a total of eighteen hundred, and it was to these eighteen hundred men in the armies of the Republic that the first eighteen hundred crosses of the Legion of Honor were awarded.

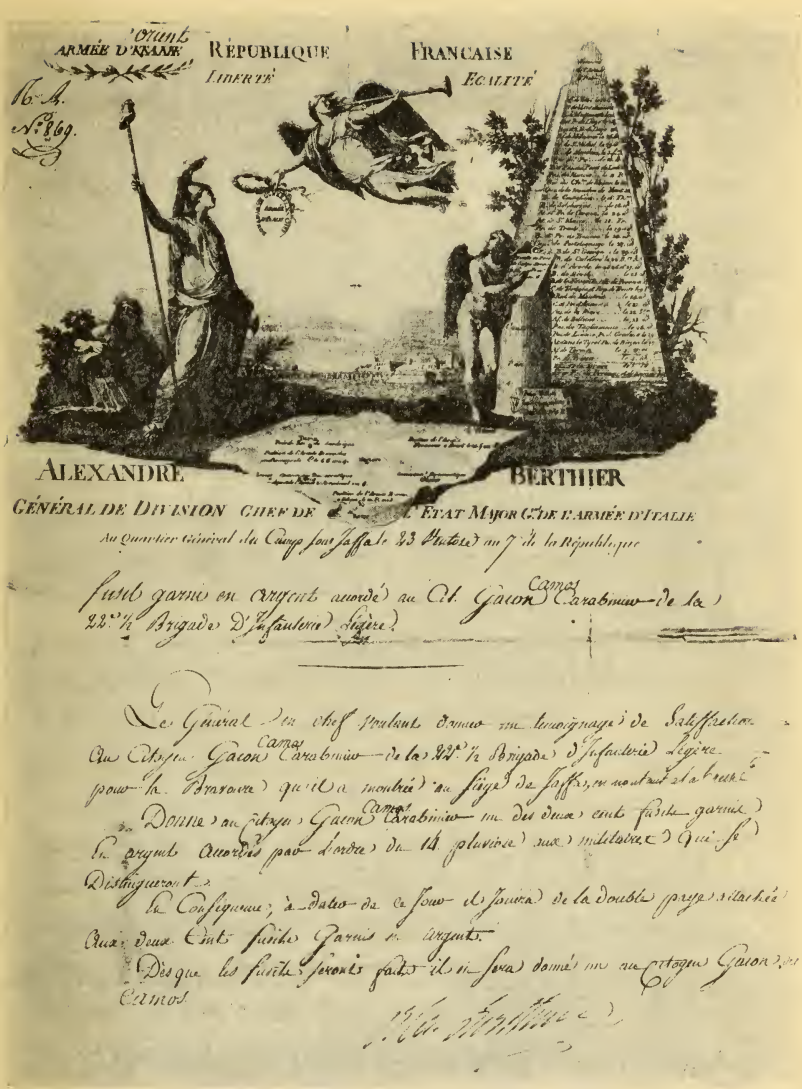
What has maintained the *croix des braves* in popular consideration and high esteem to the present day is the fact that it is something individual in character to be won personally and not handed down as a nobiliary title which, while it may have denoted talent or genius or heroism on the part of the first possessor, ceases to have significance when those who wear it have merely inherited it.

At one time the Legion of Honor threatened to become hereditary. When in December, 1804, the nation by a vote of 3,521,660 to 2,579 had raised Bonaparte to the dignity of Emperor, at the same time making him the head of the Napoleonic dynasty

and rendering the supreme power transmissible to his descendants, the thought had entered Bonaparte's mind that in order to maintain this newly created dynasty he must fortify it by handing down to his successor the support of adherents made loyal by the perpetual quality of their titles and positions in the nation.

The first distribution of crosses of the Legion had been made in July, 1804, when the Order solemnly was inaugurated. In May of that year, Cambacérès, an early advocate of the Legion of Honor, in his capacity of President of the Senate, had notified Bonaparte of the nation's desire that he become Emperor. Lucien Bonaparte, in an address before the Legislative Assembly, had spoken of the proposed Legion of Honor as a national recompense entirely personal in character and in no way a return to the system of hereditary distinctions. "If punishments," said he, "are personal, like crimes, recompenses should be personal, like services."

As soon as he had been proclaimed Emperor, with power not only vested in his own person but transmissible to his descendants by inheritance, Napoleon created a new nobility and reestablished the titles of dukes, princes, counts, and barons. He could not, however, elevate to the dignity of baron all those upon whom the Legion of Honor had been conferred. The transition between a representative form of



DIPLOMA ACCOMPANYING AWARD OF MUSKET OF HONOR, SIGNED BY GENERAL BERTHIER, DATED "GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, JAFFA, YEAR 7 OF THE REPUBLIC"

government and the more or less arbitrary rule exercised by him as Emperor was gradual. It was not until 1807 that the words "République Française" disappeared from public documents, and until 1808 the public moneys issued from the national mint bore upon one side the legend "Napoléon, Empereur," and on the other "République Française."

In March, 1808, the Emperor issued the decree which reestablished the titles of nobility and conferred upon the members of the Legion of Honor the quality and appellation of Knight, or Chevalier. This title carried with it the right to a coat of arms. A subsequent decree, issued March 3, 1810, declared this title of Chevalier transmissible at death to the eldest son, provided that letters patent had been obtained from the Grand Chancellor of the Empire, which letters could be issued only to a Chevalier proving an income of three thousand francs or more. A clause provided that for three generations this transmitted title would have to be confirmed by the Grand Chancellor of the Empire, but that after three generations the title would descend automatically and without further formality. This quality of heredity given to the members of the Legion of Honor was officially recognized in 1814 by Louis XVIII, but the records of the order show that less than 1,000 Chevaliers ever took out letters patent or

availed themselves of the nobiliary privilege thereby conferred.

It is because of its remaining a personal and individual honor to be won and deserved by the wearer himself that the Legion of Honor has remained the most desirable outward symbol of merit which the world has ever known.

II

FOUNDATION BY NAPOLEON

Rewards of merit during the Revolution — The Cross of St. Louis — Decoration commemorating the fall of the Bastille — Citizen Bretèche and the first sword of honor — Creation of Legion of Honor by Napoleon — Speeches before the Legislative Assembly by Roederer and Lucien Bonaparte — Text of law creating Legion of Honor — The sixteen cohorts and their chiefs.

VARIOUS FORMS OF THE INSIGNIA UNDER NAPOLEON

II

FOUNDATION BY NAPOLEON

ALTHO the French Revolution, by a decree dated July 30, 1791, had suppressed and abolished every order, decoration, or exterior sign indicating distinctions acquired through birth, it maintained the Cross of St. Louis, a military order created in 1693 by Louis XIV, under the changed name of the Military Decoration, and the Revolutionists continued to use it to reward deeds of valor on the battle-field until its final suppression in October, 1792. The motto of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis was "Bellicæ Virtutis Præmium," and it was really the first military decoration in the present sense of the word. Its ribbon was red, practically of the same shade as that which was later adopted for the Legion of Honor, and the insignia was an eight-pointed cross of white enamel edged with gold. In each angle was set a fleur-de-lis, and in the center was the effigy of St. Louis in golden armor. On the reverse, a flaming sword thrust through a crown of laurel was represented. The King was Grand Master of the order, and the

one exclusive clause was that individuals professing the Protestant faith could not be admitted into it.

While it abolished distinctions of a hereditary nature, the Revolution recognized the justice of public rewards, and not content with continuing the Military Decoration, created a medal of its own which was awarded to the citizens of Paris who had participated in the taking of the Bastille. La Fayette, then commanding the National Guard of Paris, designed the medal and furnished the motto, "Ignorant ne datos ne quiquam serviat enses," which was inscribed on the reverse. In 1793, however, the Convention, seized with a fever of destruction for everything that had marked the old régime, abolished all decorations and went even so far as to strip the army uniforms of the epaulets and buttons which designated certain regiments that had acquired fame under the monarchy.

Not long thereafter, however, a brilliant feat of arms at the battle of Jemmapes by Lieutenant Bretèche, who received forty-one sword wounds in saving his general from capture, occasioned a speech before the National Convention by representative Marie-Joseph Chénier, who proposed for Bretèche a public reception before the Convention, the placing upon his brow of a crown of oak-leaves, and the presentation to him of a sword of honor with the

COUNT DE LACÉPÈDE, FIRST GRAND CHANCELLOR OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

inscription, "Présenté au Citoyen Bretèche par la République Française."

The sword to Bretèche was soon followed by other arms of honor given to other warriors of the Republic as a reward for actions of valor on the field of battle. During the Directory, when Napoleon was fighting the battles of the Republic in Italy and Egypt, feats of arms became so frequent that the Ministry of War was kept busy awarding specially inscribed muskets, swords, bugles, and drumsticks to heroes in the several armies then bringing fame to the nation. More than any other of the Republic's generals, Napoleon saw the value of these visible and tangible symbols of valor and heroism. Deep psychologist that he was, he saw in the French temperament a quick responsiveness to any appeal made to pride. He secured prodigies of valor by conferring upon certain regiments the privilege of inscribing on their flags: "The Terrible 57th, Which Nothing Can Stop"; "I Can Always Depend on the Brave 32nd," or "The Incomparable 9th." He was lavish in the awarding of arms of honor, and the records of the campaign in Italy show the distribution in November, 1797, of thirty-eight swords to the Massena division, three to the Bernadotte division, seven to the Sérurier division, eighteen to the Joubert division, five to the Delmas division, seven to the Victor division, and two to the cavalry division. The two drummer-

boys who had led the charge, in which Napoleon himself participated, on the bridge at Arcole, received silver-mounted drumsticks with inscriptions on them.

Upon his return to France and his elevation to the post of First Consul, Napoleon issued a decree regulating the number of arms of honor to be distributed, and stipulating that all holders of such marks of distinction should receive extra pay of one cent a day. To holders of swords of honor, which were awarded for particularly heroic conduct, double pay was accorded. After the battle of Marengo, Napoleon conferred swords of honor upon his collaborators in this brilliant victory, Generals Murat, Victor, Lefebvre, Watrin, and Gardanne. Before that, he had conferred a sword and the title, "First Grenadier of France," on the veteran La Tour d'Auvergne.

It was in 1802, following a dinner at Malmaison, that Napoleon, in a conversation with Monge, Arnault, Duroc, and a number of State Councilors, first discussed the creation of an honorific institution through which both military bravery and civil merit could be recompensed. A few days later, with his secretaries Méneval and Bourrienne, the First Consul drew up the project for the creation of the Legion of Honor. This project was presented to the Council of State on May 4 by Roederer, but met with considerable opposition. Four sittings were needed to bring it to a vote, many Councilors seeing in the new

Painting by Ducis in the National Museum at Versailles

NAPOLEON AND THE CHILDREN OF MURAT

He is wearing the Plaque and Sash of the Legion of Honor

institution the creation of a new aristocratic order. The vote in favor was 56 to 38, and when later brought before the Legislative Assembly it passed by only 166 votes against 110. On that occasion Lucien Bonaparte, the only one among the brothers of Napoleon who refused to be elevated to the rank of King and remained a republican to the end, warmly defended the project and predicted that the nation, by conferring the new mark of distinction, would be "sowing recompenses that would bring forth a harvest of virtues." Bonaparte himself, in defending his idea before the Council of State, and combating the proposition that the decoration be made an instrument for rewarding military valor exclusively, spoke as follows:

"We are thirty million men brought together by education, property, and commerce; three or four hundred thousand soldiers are nothing compared with this mass. The soldiers are but the sons of the citizens. The army is the nation. If we were to distinguish between soldiers and civilians we would be establishing two orders, whereas there is but one nation; and if we were to award honors to soldiers only, this preference would be an injustice and the nation would no longer be anything."

The First Consul saw in the Legion of Honor the foundation of an institution which would furnish him with the means for grouping around him the various

elements which he had inherited from the Revolution and which were then scattered and disunited. Opposed to the Government there remained the members of the old nobility waiting for a chance to unite in a common cause; the insurgent peasants of the Vendée, subdued but still hostile to the Republic; and the clergy, united in a powerful corporation and maintaining at best a neutrality that might only be temporary. He wanted to maintain in power the generation which had made the Revolution, excluding a small group whose hands were soiled with blood, and with this generation he planned to found a society of which he would be the chief and in which his companions in arms and his collaborators in civil life would constitute an aristocracy — an aristocracy wide open to merit and welcoming in its ranks public servants bringing luster to the nation by their labors, their talents, and their loyalty.

In supporting the project Roederer had said: "The Legion of Honor is a moral institution which will add strength to that most powerful of French motives, Honor. It creates a new currency of a much higher value than that which comes out of the mint, a money which cannot change in value and of which the supply cannot be exhausted. It is only with this sort of money that the State can reward those actions considered superior to all recompenses."

The law creating the Legion of Honor was adopted

May 19, 1802. It conferred membership in the Legion on all those to whom had been awarded arms of honor. Up to the time of the creation of the new order, 1,854 such recompenses had been awarded.

The text of the law is as follows:

"In the name of the French nation, Bonaparte, First Consul, proclaims as law of the Republic the following decree rendered by the Legislative Assembly, on the 29th Floréal, Year X, in accord with the proposition submitted by the Government on the 25th instant and communicated on the 27th instant.

Creation and Organization

Article I. Complying with Article 87 of the Constitution relative to military recompenses, and also to recompense services and virtues of civilians, there shall be formed a Legion of Honor.

Article II. This Legion shall be composed of a Grand Council of Administration and of fifteen Cohorts, each with distinctive headquarters.

Article III. There shall be set aside as a donation to each cohort national property yielding a revenue of two hundred thousand francs a year.

Article IV. The Grand Council of Administration shall be composed of seven Grand Officers, to wit: the three Consuls and four other members, one of whom shall be named by the Senate, one by the Legislative Assembly, one by the Tribunat, and one by the Councilors of State. The members of the Grand Council of Administration will retain during their lifetime the title of Grand Officer, even tho they should be replaced through subsequent elections.

Article V. The First Consul is *ex-officio* chief of the Legion and president of the Council of Administration.

Article VI. Each Cohort shall be composed of seven Grand Officers, twenty Commandants, thirty officers, and three hundred and fifty Légionnaires.

ARTICLE VII. There shall be paid yearly to each Grand Officer 5,000 francs, to each Commandant 2,000 francs, to each Officer 1,000 francs, and to each Légionnaire 250 francs. These payments will come out of the fund set aside for each Cohort.

ARTICLE VIII. Each individual admitted to the Legion must swear upon his honor to devote himself to the service of the Republic, to the conservation of its territory in its integrity, to the defense of its Government, of its laws, and of the properties which they have confirmed; to fight by all the means authorized by justice, reason, and the laws, any enterprise intended to reestablish the feudal régime and bring back the qualities and titles which were its attributes; finally, to cooperate with all his power in the maintenance of Liberty and Equality.

ARTICLE IX. There shall be established in each cohort headquarters a home and lodgings to shelter either the members of the Legion whom their age, infirmities, or wounds have placed in the impossibility of further serving the State, or soldiers who after having been wounded in the War for Liberty, find themselves in want.

COMPOSITION

ARTICLE I. All who have obtained Arms of Honor shall be members of the Legion of Honor. Those who can be nominated are: soldiers who have rendered signal services to the State in the War for Liberty; citizens who by their services, their talents, or their virtues have contributed to establish or defend the principles of the Republic or caused justice and public administration to be respected and cherished.

ARTICLE II. The Grand Council will name the members of the Legion.

ARTICLE III. During the six years of peace which may follow the first formation, vacancies that may occur will remain unfilled until one-tenth and subsequently one-fifth of the allotment is vacant. These places will be filled only after the end of the first campaign.

EMBROIDERED PLAQUES OF THE LEGION AND OF THE IRON CROWN

ARTICLE IV. In times of war, nominations to vacancies cannot be made until the end of a campaign.

ARTICLE V. In times of war, deeds of bravery will constitute titles for all grades.

ARTICLE VI. In times of peace, twenty-five years of service will be required for nomination as member of the Legion; years of service will count double in war-time, and each campaign of the last war will count as four years.

ARTICLE VII. Services rendered to the State in the fields of Legislation, Diplomacy, Administration, Justice, or Sciences will also be titles for admission, provided that the person rendering them shall have been a member of the National Guard of his residential district.

ARTICLE VIII. After the first organization no one shall be admitted into the Legion who has not exercised for twenty-five years the required qualifications.

ARTICLE IX. The details of organization will be determined by regulations to be formulated by the 1st Vendémiaire, year XII, after which time they may not be amended save only by the passing of a special law.

On July 2, 1802 (13 Messidor, Year X), another decree raised the number of cohorts to sixteen and apportioned them to various districts of the Republic, assigning them headquarters as follows:

1st	Cohort	Fontainebleau.
2nd	"	The Abbey of St. Waast at Arras.
3rd	"	The Château of St. Martin at Ypres.
4th	"	The Château of Bruhl.
5th	"	The former bishop's palace at Toul.
6th	"	The former palace of the States of Burgundy at Dijon.
7th	"	The former bishop's palace at Vienne.
8th	"	The former archbishop's palace at Aix.
9th	"	The former bishop's palace at Béziers.

10th	Cohort	The former archbishop's palace at Narbonne.
11th	"	The Abbey of La Réole.
12th	"	The Abbey of St. Maixent.
13th	"	The Abbey of Redon.
14th	"	The Abbey of Bec, near Bernay.
15th	"	The Château of Chambord.
16th	"	The Château of La Vénérie."

The men chosen by Napoleon to be chiefs of these cohorts were all picked from among his companions in arms. They were: Berthier, Mortier, Bessières, Soult, Lefebvre, Davout, Ney, Bernadotte, Lannes, Decrès, Moncey, Murat, Bruix, Masséna, Augereau, and Jourdan.

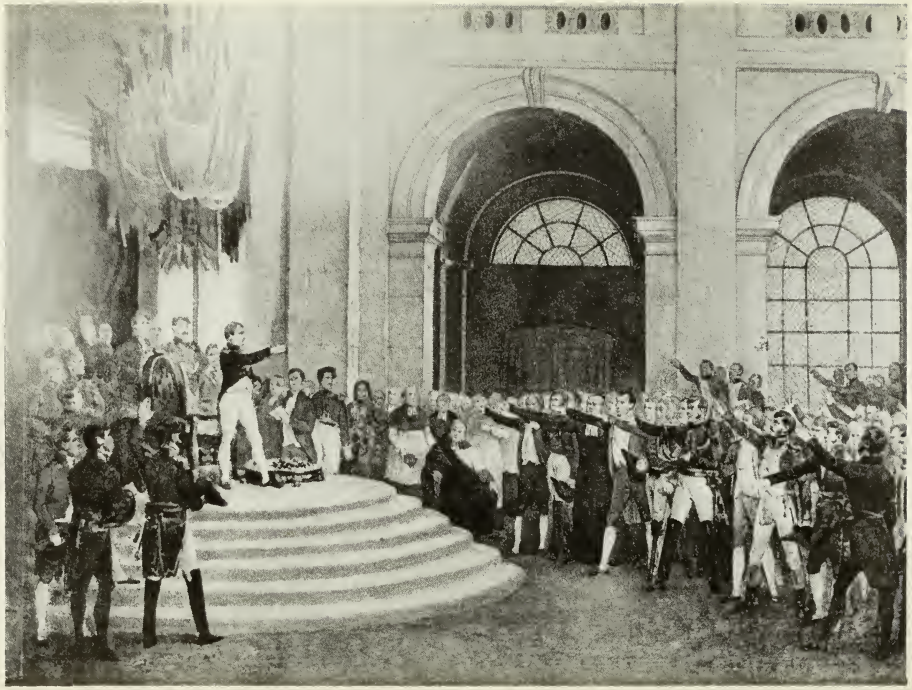
The same decree named the following as constituting the first Grand Council of Administration of the Legion:

Bonaparte, First Consul, Chief of the Legion and President of the Council. Cambacérès, Second Consul; Lebrun, Third Consul; Joseph Bonaparte; Lucien Bonaparte; General Kellerman; Senator Lacépède. On the first calling together of the Council, Lacépède was made Grand Chancellor of the Legion and General Dejean, Grand Treasurer.

III

THE FIRST LÉGIONNAIRES

FORMS OF INSIGNIA — FIRST DISTRIBUTION OF CROSSES AT THE INVALIDES — MILITARY DISTRIBUTION AT BOULOGNE CAMP — THE FIRST TO BE DECORATED — THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE EMPEROR — LA FAYETTE AND ROCHAMBEAU REFUSE TO TAKE IT — CREATION OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR DAUGHTERS OF LÉGIONNAIRES — THE BUDGET OF THE ORDER — PRIVILEGES ENJOYED BY LÉGIONNAIRES — POLITICIANS NOT ELIGIBLE EXCEPT FOR WAR DEEDS.



FIRST DISTRIBUTION OF CROSSES OF THE LEGION OF HONOR
BY NAPOLEON IN THE INVALIDES

III

THE FIRST LÉGIONNAIRES

THE decree determining the form which the insignia of the Legion was to have and what the color of the ribbon was to be, was not promulgated until July 11, 1804 (22 Messidor, Year XII), altho eight lists had already appeared admitting about six thousand men into the order. Napoleon in the meanwhile had been proclaimed Emperor and the oath was changed to read: "I swear to devote myself to the service of the Empire . . . and to the defense of the Emperor," instead of "I swear to devote myself to the service of the Republic . . . and to the defense of its Government."

The first "cross" of the Legion of Honor was "a star with five double rays having in its center the profile head of Napoleon with the legend, "Napoléon, Empereur des Français" encircling it inside a crown of oak and laurel leaves. The reverse showed the imperial eagle inside the legend, "Honneur et Patrie." The rays of the star were enameled in white, the oak and laurel leaves in green, and the center was of gold for the Grand Officers, Commandants and Officers,

and of silver for the Légionnaires. The ribbon was of red moiré silk.

The distribution of these prizes was eagerly awaited by the army, the men in public life, and the high clergy, who were to be the first to wear them. By surrounding the ceremony with great pomp and solemnity, Napoleon gave added value to the new insignia. He wore it himself at all times and made it the emblem of heroism and of high service to the State.

On Sunday, July 15, 1804, on the fifteenth anniversary of the taking of the Bastille, the troops of the Paris garrison were passed in review on the Place du Carrousel by the Emperor surrounded by all his Marshals. They paraded to the Invalides by way of the Tuileries and the Pont de la Concorde. The Empress and the ladies of the imperial family, sisters and sisters-in-law of the Emperor, riding in carriages drawn by eight horses and escorted by a brilliant cavalcade of Grenadier Guards, arrived at the church at noon and were received by the Governor of the Invalides and the Grand Master of Ceremonies. Napoleon, in the uniform of the Chasseurs of the Guard and preceded by his Marshals, joined the procession with a brilliant staff and rode to the courtyard of the Invalides, where all dismounted outside the grille and went on afoot to the church.

The imperial throne had been set up inside the

church, fronting the altar, and gathered about it were all the dignitaries of the empire. The Cardinal-Archbishop of Paris celebrated mass, and after an oration by the Grand Chancellor of the Legion, the ceremony of investiture began. The Légionnaires were massed at the foot of the throne, and Napoleon, placing the ever-to-be-famous cocked hat upon his imperial head, read out the oath: "Commandants, Officers, and Légionnaires, citizens and soldiers, you swear upon your honor to devote yourselves to the service of the Empire . . . " All the Légionnaires in a swelling chorus replied, "I swear it."

The crosses were then brought in on large gold salvers, which were laid on the steps of the throne; the Grand Master of Ceremonies, Monsieur de Ségur, chose one which he handed to the Grand Chamberlain, Monsieur de Talleyrand. Talleyrand presented the cross to His Imperial Majesty, who turned to his brother Louis to have it pinned on. With cannon booming and the organ of the church pealing out a *Te Deum*, the Emperor then went on with the distribution of crosses, bishops and generals and the humblest trooper all receiving it at his hands.

The Revolution was still fresh in the public mind, but the fascination exercised by Napoleon was such that few saw in his elevation to a throne the overthrow of republican principles and the surrender of the people's liberties. Among the distinguished men

who were asked to swear allegiance to the Emperor as part of the ritual admitting them into the Legion, there were few who declined. It will be interesting to Americans, however, to be reminded that among those who balked at taking this oath were La Fayette and Rochambeau.

Among the first six thousand to be decorated were the eighteen Marshals, all the Generals, all the Colonels, all the high naval officers, most of the bishops, and great men like Monge, Cambacérès, Sieyès, Brillat-Savarin, Parmentier, Cuvier, Montgolfier, Chénier, David, Talleyrand, Fouché, Bertholet, Roederer, Portalis, etc.

The second distribution of crosses was even more impressive than the first. It was held a few weeks later, on August 16, at the famous Boulogne Camp, where Napoleon was assembling the great army with which he proposed to invade and conquer England. This was a military pageant in which 70,000 men participated. The troops were massed in a semicircle spread out like a fan and facing the historic throne of King Dagobert raised on an artificial mound planted with flags captured from the enemy. The suits of armor worn by Bayard and Du Guesclin served as receptacles for the crosses about to be distributed, and two thousand drums were massed on either side of the throne to punctuate by their rumble the opening and closing of the ceremonies.

From a Colored Epinal Print

DISTRIBUTION OF CROSSES BY NAPOLEON AT THE BOULOGNE CAMP

Here again, the Emperor read the oath, and those about to be decorated responded in a mighty chorus, "I swear it." Again each man received his cross at the hands of Napoleon himself, and in the heart of many of these men there was thereby awakened a feeling of personal relationship with a Divinity.

Shortly thereafter (3 Prairial, Year XII) the Grand Council of the Legion voted to admit into the Order distinguished foreigners whom it would be possible in this manner to honor. It was stipulated, however, that such foreigners would be "admitted but not received," and this distinction has continued down to the present time. Naturally the foreigners were exempted from taking the oath.

In January, 1805, Napoleon, feeling the need of distributing the insignia of the Legion among the crowned heads of Europe, created a fifth grade, superseding all those existing, to be known as the Grand Eagle or Grand Decoration. The number of Grand Eagles was not to exceed sixty, exclusive of the imperial family and dignitaries of foreign states. This Grand Decoration consisted of a wide red sash passing from the right shoulder to the left hip, from which was suspended the cross of the Legion. In addition there was to be embroidered in silver on the left side of an outer coat a plaque figuring the ten rays of the star and the imperial eagle within the emblazoned motto, "Honneur et Patrie."

NAPOLEON'S LEGION

Two weeks after the battle of Austerlitz, Napoleon, writing from the Palace of Schönbrunn (December 15, 1805), added to the privileges associated with the Legion of Honor that of free education for the daughters of Légionnaires killed in action. The Emperor had planned to establish five such houses of education — at the Abbey of Saint Denis, at the Château of Ecouen, on the Rue Barbette in Paris, at Barbeaux, and at the Château des Loges — but only three of these were ever brought into full operation: Saint Denis, Ecouen, and Les Loges. The first was established at the Château of Ecouen, formerly the property of the Dukes of Montmorency, and placed by Napoleon under the direction of the famous Madame Campan, who had conducted during the Revolution a private school in Paris which the children of Josephine attended. The second, that of Saint Denis, was inaugurated in 1809, and in 1811 Les Loges began operation.

These houses of education were placed under the high patronage of Queen Hortense, daughter of Josephine and, as has been said, a former pupil of Madame Campan. Originally it had been the intention to admit only daughters of Légionnaires who had been killed in action, or who had died in the service of the State, but subsequently admission privileges were extended so as to include sisters, nieces, and first cousins, and a class of paying students was created.

The proportion of paying pupils to those maintained and instructed by the Legion was twenty per cent. In 1809 the establishment at Ecouen harbored three hundred students and a similar number were provided for at Saint Denis. The establishment at Les Loges accommodated only two hundred students. There was no limit placed on the age for admission, but pupils were released at the end of their eighteenth year unless their education had been completed before that.

The original law setting aside national property calculated to yield two hundred thousand francs of income for each cohort was soon found to be ineffective. In many sections the property set aside as forming part of the endowment of the cohort was non-productive or clouded as to title, thus yielding no revenues to the new owner. A new law was therefore formulated under date of January 31, 1805, which converted the dotation to half real estate and half Government bonds.

The abolition of the entire system of cohorts in February, 1809, caused another financial readjustment, and the Legion turned over its rural properties to the State, receiving in exchange bonds yielding a revenue of 2,082,000 francs. It also turned over its wooded and agrarian properties and received in exchange bonds with a yearly revenue of 240,000 francs.

By the terms of the original law, the Legion was to

consist of 105 Grand Officers, to whom would be paid 5,000 francs a year; 300 Commanders, who would receive 2,000 francs a year: 450 Officers, to whom 1,000 francs a year would be paid, and 3,750 Légionnaires at 250 francs a year. These 4,605 members would consequently receive yearly 2,512,500 francs. But the membership had grown to 9,083 at the end of 1805, and the amounts to be paid to the Légionnaires then aggregated 4,324,250 francs. Altho the property of the Legion was estimated to yield 5,605,358 francs, the amount collected was only 4,180,085 francs. It was necessary, therefore, for the Government to aid the treasury of the Legion, and it did so by contributing 3,500,000 francs. The deficit kept on growing as the members admitted into the Legion increased in number, and by 1813 the receipts failed to meet the sum needed for disbursements by 3,503,980 francs.

Up to March, 1806, the Legion had received from the State 4,103,488 francs in revenues. In 1809 a further dotation of 2,102,500 francs was added, and in July, 1810, a supplementary sum yielding 200,000 francs was added, this last assigned particularly to meet the cost of maintenance of the three educational institutions of the Legion.

In spite of all this, the Legion still had a deficit of 409,590 francs in 1814, and it was to remedy this situation that Louis XVIII, in the decree continuing

NAPOLEON DECORATING ARTISTS OF THE SALON IN 1808

A Painting by Yvon in the Museum of the Legion of Honor — From the Original by Baron Gross

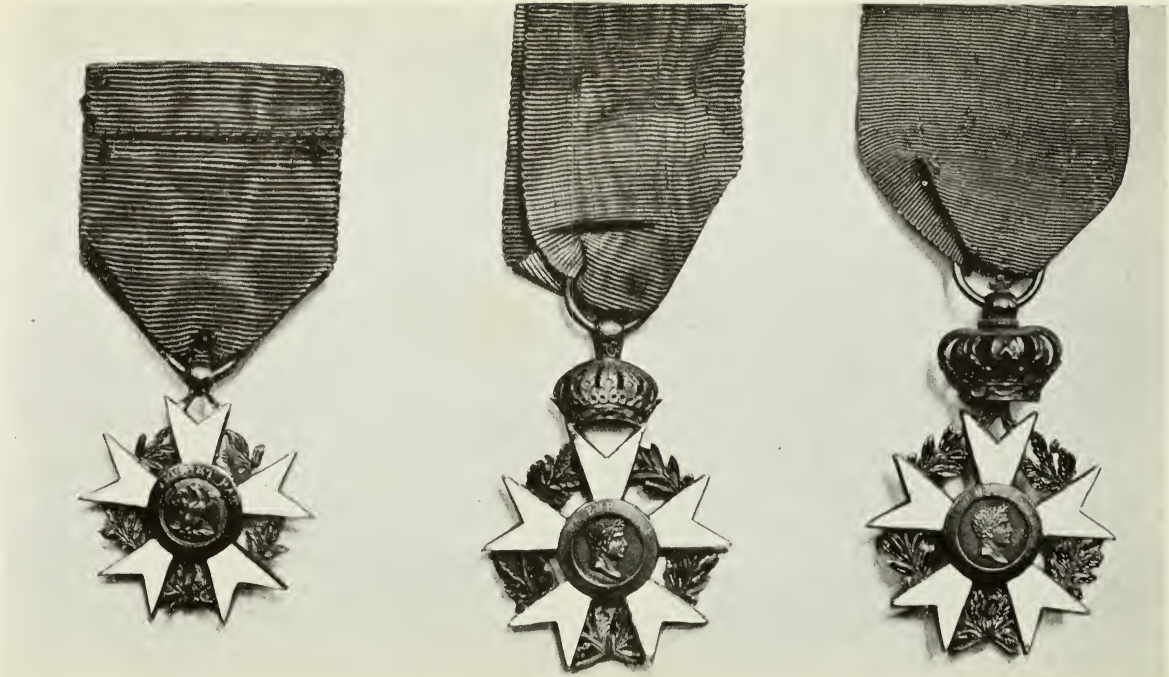
the Legion of Honor, inserted the provision that the pensions enjoyed by members of the Legion would be reduced to meet the revenues of the Order and that all further appointees would be Légionnaires without monetary emoluments.

In December, 1816, the yearly grant to Légionnaires was cut in half and limited exclusively to officers and men of the regular army and navy. In 1820 the military and naval Chevaliers were restored to the original pension, the Government having donated 3,400,000 francs to meet the added cost; but Légionnaires outside of the army and navy have continued to this day without pension. The pension now accompanying the decoration is as follows: 3,000 francs to Grand Crosses; 2,000 to Grand Officers; 1,000 to Commanders; 500 to Officers and 250 to Chevaliers. These sums are still paid annually to officers and men of the army and navy in active service, and to soldiers and sailors of all grades retired through the amputation of an arm or leg, or suffering from injuries equivalent to the loss of an arm or leg.

The property of the Legion consists of the palace at 64 Rue de Lille, Paris, where the Grand Chancellor maintains offices, and where are housed the archives of the Order (this includes a museum built in 1925); the Abbey of Saint Denis; the Château of Ecouen; and the Château of Les Loges near Saint Germain,

all three in the suburbs of Paris and used as schools for the education of daughters of Légionnaires. In addition the Order is down on the books of the Public Debt for a yearly revenue of 4,145,747 francs in three per cent. *rentes* and 24,843 francs in Provincial *rentes*. It also derives a yearly income of 56,336 francs from gifts and endowments received from private individuals. This revenue falls short every year by many millions of the sum needed for pensions, and since 1832 the Government has had to make up the deficit by yearly grants. From 1832 to 1844 the State contributed 64,000,000 francs to the Legion in this manner, and the grants have grown from 3,392,996 francs in 1844 to 19,883,460 francs in 1922. The yearly compensation paid out to military Légionnaires in 1886 was 9,987,700 francs. In 1922 it had grown to 20,314,250 francs. During that year, sixty Grand Crosses, 182 Grand Officers, 839 Commanders, 4,092 Officers and 25,961 Chevaliers were drawing a Legion of Honor pension, while 20 Grand Crosses, 50 Grand Officers, 250 Commanders, 2,000 Officers and 12,000 Chevaliers received no money compensation with their decoration.

The budget of the Order for 1925 amounted to 58,254,650 francs. This is not all chargeable to the Legion of Honor, however, since 26,000,000 francs of this total goes as the yearly grant paid to soldiers decorated with the Médaille Militaire (created by



EARLY FORMS OF THE CROSS IN NAPOLEON'S TIME

Napoleon III in 1852). The Legion of Honor crosses, carrying with them a yearly grant and the other expenses of the Grand Chancellery, totaled 27,063,-647 francs. The revenues derived by the Legion from its own properties, including Government bonds, amounted to less than 5,000,000 francs.

In addition to the Government subsidy and the income derived from its holdings in Government bonds the Legion receives about 500,000 francs a year from fees for diplomas and insignia to French members and from the paying pupils educated at Ecouen, Saint Denis, and Les Loges. Foreign members of the Legion do not receive a pension and are exempted from paying the fees for diplomas paid by nationals. The fee for diplomas was twenty-five francs for a Chevalier, fifty francs for an Officer, eighty francs for a Commander, one hundred and twenty francs for a Grand Officer, and two hundred francs for a Grand Cross, but in 1926 it was raised to fifty francs for a Chevalier, one hundred francs for an Officer, two hundred francs for a Commander, three hundred for a Grand Officer, and five hundred francs for a Grand Cross.

The military Légionnaires receive their insignia free of charge, but the civilians must pay thirty francs for the cross of a Chevalier, one hundred and fifty-eight francs for that of an Officer, three hundred and twenty-six francs for the decoration

and cravat of Commander, three hundred and eight francs for the plaque and cross of a Grand Officer, and seven hundred and twenty-one francs for the plaque and cross of the Grand Cross. In addition there are Chancellery fees ranging from fifty francs for the diploma of Chevalier to five hundred francs for the diploma of Grand Cross.

The distinction of membership in the Legion of Honor confers upon its possessor certain privileges and prerogatives: soldiers and non-commissioned officers wearing the decoration are entitled to a salute from military men of the same grade not so decorated. Légionnaires of high rank (Grand Crosses and Grand Officers) indicted for criminal offenses, may demand to be judged at once by a higher court. The distinction of being a Légionnaire also facilitates promotion in the various colonial orders instituted by the French Government. Impoverished members may have their daughters educated free at one of the Legion's educational institutions, and they are entitled to a military escort at their funeral.

Membership in the Legion of Honor is forfeited for the same causes that lead to the forfeiture of citizenship. In the case of bankrupts, the honor is restored if the bankrupt subsequently liquidates his debts. Dishonorable acts, even when not classified as crimes, may cause the expulsion of a Légionnaire. The most recent instance of this kind was the exclu-

RAYMOND POINCARÉ, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, WEARING THE GRAND CROSS OF THE LEGION

sion of Victor Marguerite for the writing of the sensational book "La Garçonne," which was deemed a menace to public morals and a libel on French character.

Members of the French Parliament, whether Deputies or Senators, may not be named into the Legion of Honor or promoted while they hold public office, save only in time of war, and then only as a reward for acts of valor performed on the field of battle.

IV

PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS

Various grades in the Order — The President of the Republic, Grand Master ex-Officio — 140,000 Légionnaires in 1927 — Changes in the insignia — Rules governing promotion of members — Pensions to Légionnaires in the Army or Navy — Privileges attaching to the quality of Légionnaires — Grand Chancellors since 1803 — Cities and regimental flags decorated with Legion of Honor — The fourragère of the Legion.

IV

PRIVILEGES AND OBLIGATIONS

THE French National Order of the Legion of Honor is an institution of distinction in which several grades exist. It consists of Knights (Chevaliers), Officers, Commanders, Grand Officers, Grand Crosses, and is presided over by the President of the French Republic who is *ex-officio* Grand Master of the Order.

The Cross of the Legion of Honor, as has been stated, is a star of five double rays surmounted by a wreath of oak and laurel. The center of the star presents upon one side a profile head of the Republic with the inscription "République Française, 1870," and upon the other, two tricolor flags with the motto "Honneur et Patrie." The star, which is of white enamel, is of silver for Knights and of gold for Officers, Commanders, and Grand Crosses. The Knights wear the decoration attached to a ribbon of red moiré silk on the left side of the breast. The Officers also wear it on the left side, but with a rosette superimposed upon the ribbon. The Commanders wear the decoration around the neck and attached to a

ribbon a little larger than that of the Officers and Knights. The Grand Officers carry upon the right side a plaque or star with five double rays, diamond-studded, upon a silver ground three and one-half inches in diameter, in the center of which is the profile head of the Republic and the inscription, "La République Française, 1870," "Honneur et Patrie." They also wear the cross of Officers. The Grand Crosses wear a wide red moiré sash crossing the chest from the right shoulder; to this is suspended a cross similar to that of the Commanders, but two and three-fourths inches in diameter. In addition they wear upon the left side of the chest a plaque similar to that of the Grand Officers.

Civilians, instead of the cross, display a narrow ribbon in the buttonhole for the Knights, and a rosette for the grades above. Officers wear the rosette alone, while Commanders wear the rosette centered upon a small silver barrette (flat bar one-fourth of an inch wide by three-fourths of an inch long). The Grand Officers wear the rosette on a barrette one half gold, the other half silver, while the Grand Crosses wear the rosette on a gold barrette.

The insignia of the Grand Master of the Legion of Honor is a jeweled chain collar of gold and enamel similar to the neck-chains of the ancient orders of knighthood. This Grand Collier is seldom worn, however, and the Grand Master generally appears wear-

ing the sash and plaque of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor only.

No citizen of France can be admitted into the Legion of Honor in any grade but that of Knight (Chevalier), nor can he be promoted except from one grade to the other immediately above. Generally twenty years' service in Government employ, or twenty-five years' practise in industry or in one of the professions, is demanded before admission. A Légionnaire cannot be promoted to the grade of Officer until four years after his appointment as a Knight. After two years as Officer he may be advanced to Commander, after three years as Commander he can be made Grand Officer, and after five years as Grand Officer he can be raised to the dignity of Grand Cross. In exceptional cases, it is true, these periods of transition may be shortened; but under no circumstances can promotion be made through more than one grade. In the case of foreigners, however, it has frequently happened not only that the initial appointment was to a grade higher than Knight, but that promotions were made without waiting the stipulated intervals, and occasionally by skipping one or more grades.

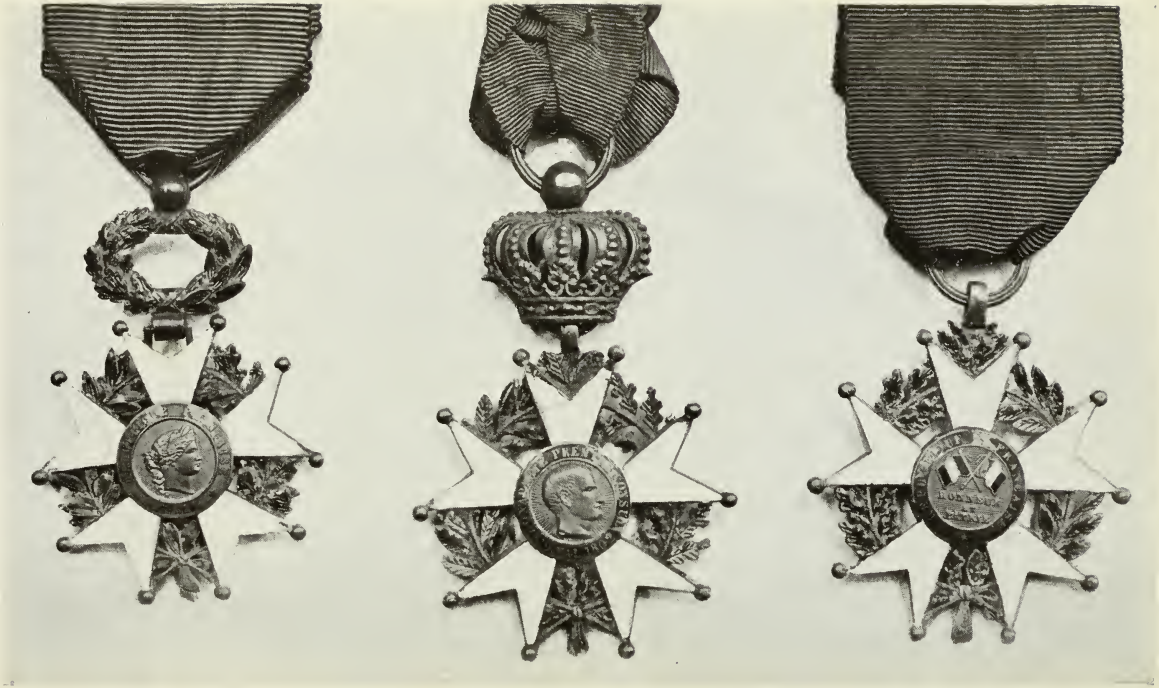
In July 1927 the law was amended so that Frenchmen must now wait eight years before becoming susceptible to advancement from Chevalier to Officer; five years from Officer to Commander; three years

for advancement from Commander to Grand Officer, and three years for advancement from Grand Officer to Grand Cross.

The induction to the grades of Grand Cross and Grand Officer is usually performed in the presence of the President of the Republic, Grand Master of the Order. Military men are decorated according to a formula descended from the ancient practise observed when knighthood was conferred. The officer charged with the conferring of the decoration strikes the appointee on both shoulders with the flat of his sword, pins the decoration upon his chest, and gives him the accolade in the presence of assembled troops.

Military honors are rendered to Légionnaires upon their death. At the funeral of a titular of the Grand Cross, two-thirds of the military garrison join in the ceremony. For Grand Officers half of the garrison attend; for Commanders, three officers of high grade, three captains and three lieutenants; for Officers, two superior officers, two captains and one lieutenant; and for Knights, three lieutenants.

The National Order of the Legion of Honor is administered by a Grand Chancellor and a council of ten members assisted by a General Secretary. The Grand Chancellor, who is chosen from among the Grand Crosses or Grand Officers of the Legion, is custodian of the seal of the Order and submits to the



VARIATIONS IN FORM BETWEEN 1810 AND 1870

President of the Republic such recommendations as concern the Legion. He is in direct contact with the President of the Republic and attends such meetings of the Cabinet as are taken up with measures affecting the interests of the Order.

The Council of the Order is composed of the Grand Chancellor, who presides, and ten members chosen from among Grand Crosses, Grand Officers, and Commanders. It is concerned with the observance of the statutes and regulations of the Order, and of the foundations maintained by it. Every six months it tabulates the number of vacancies which make possible new appointments and promotions in the Legion of Honor. It also votes on the recognition to be accorded for exceptional services and establishes the yearly budget of the Order.

The offices of the Order have been located since 1804 in the ancient Palace de Salm, 64 Rue de Lille, Paris. Here are kept the archives of the Order, and, since 1911, various relics and treasures constituting a museum of the highest interest.

Since 1803 the Grand Chancellors have been: Count Lacépède, Baron de Pradt, Viscount de Bruges, Marshal Macdonald, Marshal Mortier, Marshal Gérard, Marshal Oudinot, General Subervie, Marshal Molitor, Marshal Exelmans, General Count d'Ornano, General Lebrun, Marshal Pelissier, Admiral Hamelin, General Count Flahaut, General Vinoy,

General Faidherbe, General Février, General Davout, General Florentin, and General Dubail.

As an equivalent to the ancient privilege granted in the days of the *ancien regime*, when monarchs ruled, to certain cities to incorporate in their coat of arms the fleur-de-lis of the reigning house, a number of cities received in various circumstances the right to have the cross of the Legion of Honor figure in their escutcheon. These cities in chronological order are: Chalon-sur-Saône, Tournus, St.-Jean-de-Losne, Roanne, Châteaudun, Belfort, Rambervillers, St. Quentin, Dijon, Bazeilles, Paris, Lille, Valenciennes, Landrecies, St.-Dizier, Péronne, Liége, Verdun, Bitche, Reims, Dunkerque, Strasbourg, Phalsbourg, Cambrai, Douai, Longwy, Nancy, Metz, Arras, Lens, Bapaume, Béthune, Soissons, Thionville, Noyon, Château-Thierry, Belgrade.

A number of army corps and regiments, through brilliant actions under fire, have acquired the right to carry the Legion of Honor insignia on the staff of the corps, or regimental flag. The feat of arms most generally rewarded in this manner, previous to the World War, was the capture of a flag from the enemy. The following military groups have had their colors decorated with the Legion of Honor:

Second regiment of Zouaves (1859).
Seventy-sixth regiment of Infantry (1859).
Tenth battalion Chasseurs of the Guard (1859).

First regiment Chasseurs d'Afrique (1863).
Third regiment of Zouaves (1863).
Third regiment Algerian Tirailleurs (1863).
Ninty-ninth regiment of Infantry (1863).
Fifty-first regiment of Infantry (1865).
Fifty-seventh regiment of Infantry (1880).
Second regiment Algerian Tirailleurs (1902).

Other units that won the Legion of Honor before 1914 were the battalion of cadets in the Saint-Cyr Military Academy; the battalion of the Polytechnic School; the regiment of firemen of Paris; the First Regiment of the Foreign Legion; the First Regiment of Colonial Infantry, and the First Regiment of Colonial Artillery.

Decorated during the late war for the capture of a flag from the enemy — before flags ceased to be carried into battle — were the First Battalion of Chasseurs à Pied; the One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Regiment of Infantry; the Two Hundred and Ninety-eighth Regiment of Infantry; and the Twenty-fourth Regiment of Colonial Infantry.

Acts of heroism became so numerous during the World War that the French Government created a new mark of distinction in the *fourragère.* This consists of a braided cord going over and under the left shoulder and fastened to the collar; it is worn by the officers and men of the regiment, or army corps, upon which the distinction is conferred. The French War Department created first the *fourragère* of the Croix

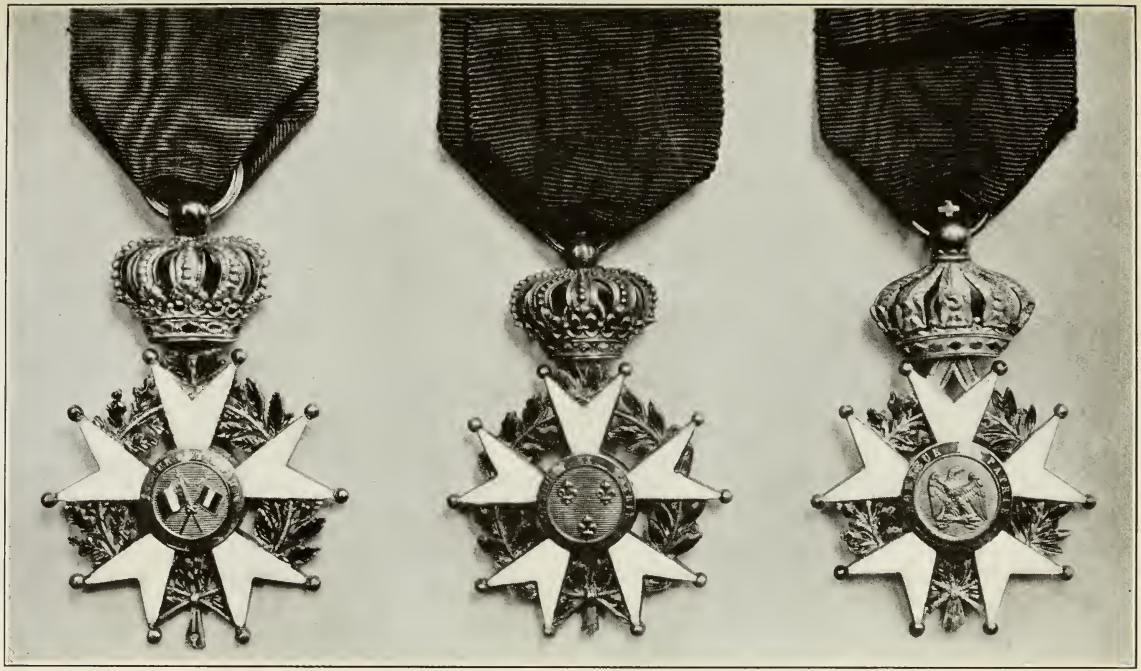
de Guerre, which is red and green, and which was conferred after two citations. It was then found necessary to create a higher form of reward, and the *fourragère* of the Medaille Militaire, green and yellow, was created and conferred after four citations. Finally the *fourragère* of the Legion of Honor, which is red, was created and conferred after six or more citations.

The military units that have won the *fourragère* of the Legion of Honor are: The Twenty-sixth Regiment of Infantry, the One Hundred and Fifty-second Regiment of Infantry, the Sixteenth Battalion of Chasseurs à Pied, the Twenty-seventh Battalion of Chasseurs Alpins (the "Blue Devils"), the Thirtieth Battalion of Chasseurs à Pied, the Fourth Regiment of Zouaves, the Fourth Regiment of Zouave Tirailleurs, the Seventh Regiment of Tirailleurs, the Eighth Regiment of Zouaves (Morocco Division), the Second Regiment of Tirailleurs, the Third Regiment of Zouaves, the Forty-third Regiment of Colonial Infantry, and the Battalion of Marine Infantry.

Altho Napoleon, then First Consul, created the Legion of Honor under decree of May 4, 1802, it was not until July 15, 1804, that the first appointments to the Order were made. At that time it was provided that only six thousand could be admitted.

Louis the Eighteenth, by charter dated June 4, 1814, continued the Legion of Honor, but changed

VARIATIONS FROM 1816 TO 1870



THE REVERSE OF THE MEDAL FROM 1816 TO 1870

upon the decoration itself the effigy of Napoleon for that of Henry the Fourth. The inscriptions were also changed to read on one side, "Henri IV, Roi de France et de Navarre," and on the other, "Honneur et Patrie" around three fleurs-de-lis.

Upon his return from Elba, Napoleon annulled all appointments not countersigned by Count Lacépède, his appointee as Grand Chancellor, and rescinded all the changes made by Louis the Eighteenth. Louis the Eighteenth, restored to power, in turn annulled everything done by Napoleon during the Hundred Days.

Under Louis-Philippe, the Cross retained the effigy of Henry the Fourth, but under the Second Republic it was again modified. It remained unchanged until the Second Empire, when another alteration was made (March, 1852), but it was once more restored to its Republican form with the coming of the Third Republic (October, 1870). Since then it has undergone no further changes.

The latest law regulating the distribution of Legion of Honor crosses (July 14, 1923) places within the yearly disposal of the various members of the Cabinet the following: Minister of War, 1,000 crosses of Chevalier, 329 crosses of Officer, 77 crosses of Commander, and 15 crosses of Grand Officer. The Minister of the Navy has at his disposal yearly 121 crosses of Chevalier, 56 crosses of Officer, 15 of Com-

mander, and 3 of Grand Officer. The Minister of Colonies has but 4 crosses of Chevalier to give, and one cross of Officer. Twice in five years he can award a cross of Commander, and once every five years a cross of Grand Officer. All these are for distribution among active members of the army and navy and carry with them a yearly grant of money which ranges from 250 francs for Chevaliers to 3,000 francs for Grand Crosses.

In addition to the above, decorations *without pension* are available yearly upon the recommendation of the various ministers as follows:

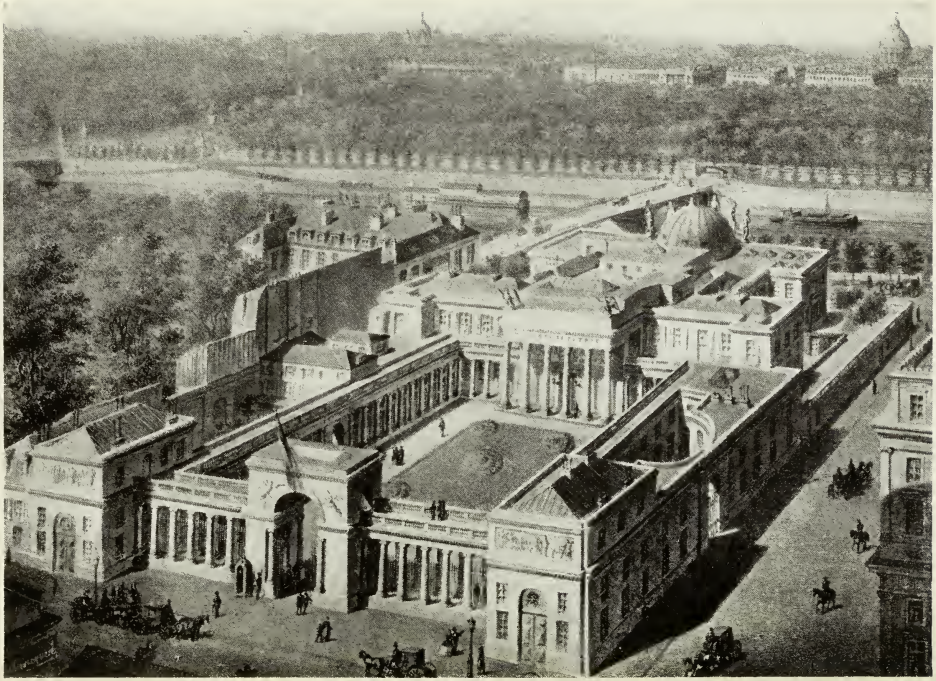
Ministry	*Commander*	*Officer*	*Chevalier*
Interior	4	31	170
Colonies	3	20	120
Public Instruction and Fine Arts	7	30	155
Grand Chancellery	6	24	120
Foreign Affairs	7	30	140
Justice	6	30	140
War	2	12	75
Public Works	5	25	135
Posts, Telegraphs and Aeronautics	2	13	85
Merchant Marine and Navy	2	13	70
Technical Education	1	6	35
Commerce and Industry	4	25	145
Agriculture and Labor	6	36	195
Hygiene and Social Service	2	13	75
Pensions and Liberated Regions		12	80

The Council of Ministers also may collectively award each year two Grand Crosses, ten crosses of Grand Officer without pension, and two Grand Crosses with pension.

V

THE HOME OF THE LEGION

Home of the Grand Chancellery — Palace de Salm, one of the finest examples of Corinthian architecture — Copy erected by French Government at San Francisco as Exposition Building and now rebuilt in permanent form as Art Museum — Description of interior — New museum building erected in 1923 largely through generosity of American Légionnaires.



Drawing by J. Devicque

PALACE OF THE GRAND CHANCELLERY, LEGION OF HONOR, PARIS, 1830

V

THE HOME OF THE LEGION

THE very handsome edifice which houses the Grand Chancellery of the Legion of Honor was constructed in 1782–1787 for the Prince Salm-Kyrbourg from plans of the famous architect Rousseau. It was purchased on May 3, 1804, by the First Grand Chancellor of the Order acting upon instructions received from the First Consul. It was partly destroyed in May, 1871, by an incendiary mob during the Commune, but a subscription begun in June of the same year, and headed by President Thiers with a donation of 2,000 francs, permitted its reconstruction in 1878. The sum raised by this public subscription amounted to 1,625,599 francs.

The palace faces upon the Quai d'Orsay with wings and dependencies on Rue de Lille, Rue de Solférino, and Rue de Bellechasse. The rotunda, with its crown of statues and its bas-reliefs and busts, is of the purest Corinthian order, and with the Arc de Triomphe and the portico and colonnades of the Court of Honor, constitutes one of the finest and most decorative pieces of architecture in Paris. A wing facing on Rue de Solférino contains the offices and

archives of the Order and a newer and more modern construction, built in 1923, faces on Rue de Bellechasse and houses the museum of the Order.

The Palace of the Legion of Honor was considered so perfect architecturally that the French Government erected a replica of it to house the exhibits of France at the International Exposition of 1915 held in San Francisco. This building, of flimsy construction, as all temporary exposition buildings are, was reconstructed in permanent material on the outskirts of San Francisco, on grounds donated by the city and is now a permanent museum of art devoted principally to the exhibition of the works of French artists. This was accomplished through the generosity of a lover of France, Mrs. Alma de Bretteville Spreckels, who was decorated with the Cross of the Legion of Honor in 1924.

In the salons of the former Salm Palace Madame de Staël and Benjamin Constant held sway during the Directoire, and Lacépède received with pomp and circumstance during the Empire. One of the notable works of art in these salons is an Aubusson carpet in which the cross of the Legion of Honor is pictured, and, radiating from it, sixteen emblematical attributes representing the original sixteen cohorts of the Legion. One of the salons is decorated with the portraits of Past Grand Chancellors, and the interior throughout is decorated in a majestic manner

with allegorical paintings representing the origin and history of the Order.

In the grand salon of the palace there is a frieze made up of a series of portraits of former Grand Chancellors in oval frames and a full length likeness of Bonaparte as First Consul, painted by Yvon. He is shown in the consular uniform, a red long-skirted coat with gold braid and gold buttons, white breeches and cuff boots. He holds the Napoleonic black chapeau under his arm, and his right hand rests upon the *Livre d'Or* of the Legion of Honor outspread on a table at his side. His hair is worn long, and a black choker-scarf circles his throat. Among the Grand Chancellors portrayed are:

Count Lacépède (1803–1814).
Marshal Macdonald, Duke of Tarente (1815–1831).
Marshal Mortier, Duke de Trévise (1831–1836).
Marshal Gérard (1836–1839).
Marshal Count Exelmans (1849–1851).
General Count d'Ornano (1851–1853).
General Lebrun, Duke de Plaisance (1853–1859).
General Pelissier, Duke de Malakoff (1859–1860).
Admiral Hamelin (1860–1864).
General Count de Flahaut (1864–1871).
General Vinoy (1871–1880).
General Faidherbe (1880–1889).
General Février (1889–1895).
General Davout, Duke d'Auerstædt (1895–1901).
General Dubail (1851–).

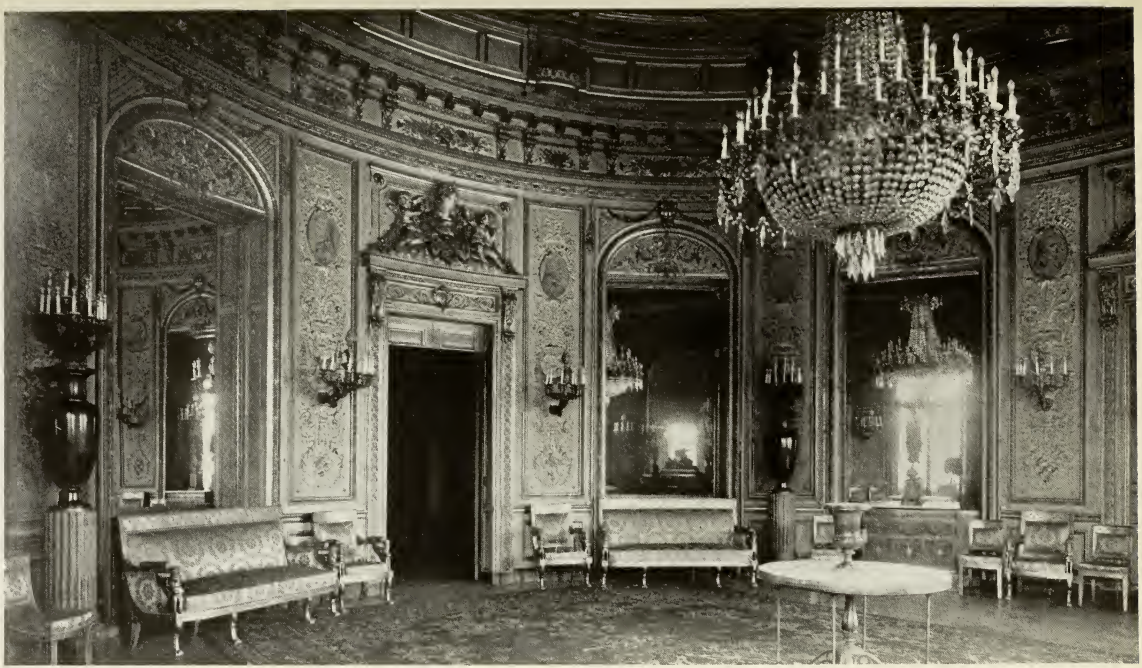
The room under the rotunda is royally furnished and decorated. Large bays, in which are set full-

length mirrors, alternate with low-relief Louis XVI panels, and a monumental crystal chandelier descends from the center of the cupola.

The rectangular site occupied by the Palace and its dependencies is laid out so that the main entrance is on Rue de Lille, where a graceful Ionic colonnade flanks a triumphal arch of noble proportions and is continued on lateral wings which enclose an inner court set out as a formal garden. On the same axis with the Arc de Triomphe is a Greek portico supported on six graceful columns, on which is inscribed the motto of the Order, "Honneur et Patrie." The rotunda facing the Seine is thus only the rear of the Palace, yet its proportions are so graceful and its silhouette so beautiful that it is considered the most important façade, architecturally speaking. It is set back from the Quai, and a marble balustrade, behind which is a thick hedge of shrubbery, shuts it off in part from the view of the profane.

The wing which faces on Rue de Solférino is not particularly notable and is affected to the utilitarian purpose of housing the offices of the Grand Chancellor, the archives of the Order, and the Council Chamber, where the meetings of the Council of the Order are held. The archives are unfortunately not complete, due to the incendiary fire which destroyed the palace in 1871. An attempt has been made to reconstruct them through duplicates

GARDEN AND PORTICO OF THE PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR



CIRCULAR SALON UNDER THE ROTUNDA, PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

kept in the files of the War Department and the Ministry of Fine Arts. Thanks to the happy circumstance that a number of original documents had been transported to the Invalides for safe-keeping because the Grand Chancellery lacked the room to store them, this has been in part accomplished.

Originally the archives contained the historical record of every Légionnaire. These official biographies formed the text of a general funeral oration read at the annual executive session of the Grand Council of the Order, in which the memory of the Légionnaires who had died within the year was eulogized. It had been the intention of Count Lacépède to publish the history of the Légionnaires from these personal records, and 880 files had been assembled covering the period of the First Empire alone. In 1828 there had been assembled nearly 200,000 dossiers, and in 1871, 152 files and 50 volumes of records had been collected. These records were completely destroyed, and the new material now assembled is complete only for the period from 1871 to date.

The data reconstructed through duplicates, etc., cover the period 1802 to 1814, but with many items missing. There are duplicates of correspondence covering the operations of the educational institutions of the Order and legal and other documents

covering the administration of the cohorts during the brief period of their existence.

The latest addition to the Legion of Honor Palace is the east wing, constructed on the Rue de Bellechasse frontage. In this are housed the collection of the recently created museum of the Order. Of particular interest to Americans is the room reserved for relics of the American War of Independence, and for mementoes of American participation in the World War. This setting aside of a special room for exhibits of American significance is in acknowledgment of the fact that most of the funds contributed in response to the appeal of General Dubail, present Grand Chancellor of the Legion, for the construction of the museum were contributed by Americans.

The Grand Chancellery had received gifts of medals and relics in 1912 and later from the Marquis de Champreux, the Marquis de Beauchamp and the Count Duchaffault; but the bequest in 1921 of twelve thousand objects, all pertaining to French Royal, or National, orders and constituting the collection of Maurice Bucquet, found the salons of the Chancellery too small for a proper display of these treasures, and the construction of a separate building for them was judged necessary. A circular letter was addressed by General Dubail to all the members of the Legion in July, 1921, suggesting that the Légionnaires defray the cost of erecting this museum, as the Légionnaires

of 1871 had defrayed the cost of rebuilding the Chancellery destroyed by fire. This appeal, however, found the French Légionnaires in impoverished circumstances and ill prepared to respond. Fortunately, the American Légionnaires were able and eager to contribute, and at once large sums were subscribed by them and the subscription lists closed. Among the Americans first to answer the call of General Dubail were Mrs. A. de Bretteville Spreckels, A. C. Gurnee, Eugene Higgins, and an anonymous contributor whose identity has not yet been revealed, and who donated the handsome sum of 250,000 francs. This *beau geste* was surpassed, however, by the gift of more than a million francs contributed by William Nelson Cromwell. Mr. and Mrs. Edward Tuck and Mr. and Mrs. George Blumenthal have become regular contributors towards its support.

The museum was inaugurated in March, 1925, by President Doumergue in the presence of a full-dress array of the Marshals of France. It is a chaste edifice, harmonizing with the classical note of the Salm Palace, with a façade of balconied windows disposed on either side of a central arched door. Separating the high-ceilinged first floor from a less generously proportioned upper story are carved panels in high relief framing each window opening. These are the work of the sculptor Moreau Vauthier and represent the various orders of chivalry and the

royal and national orders that prevailed at some time or other in French history. Among the orders used as decorative motifs are the Legion of Honor itself, the cross of Saint Louis, those of Saint Michel, Saint Esprit, St. Lazare and Mount Carmel, the Croix de Guerre, the Médaille Militaire, and the insignia of the Order of the Cincinnati.

In the vestibule, facing the entrance, is a monumental bas-relief by Bouchard picturing a draped female figure impersonating Glory rising above a lower panel in which are represented warriors who

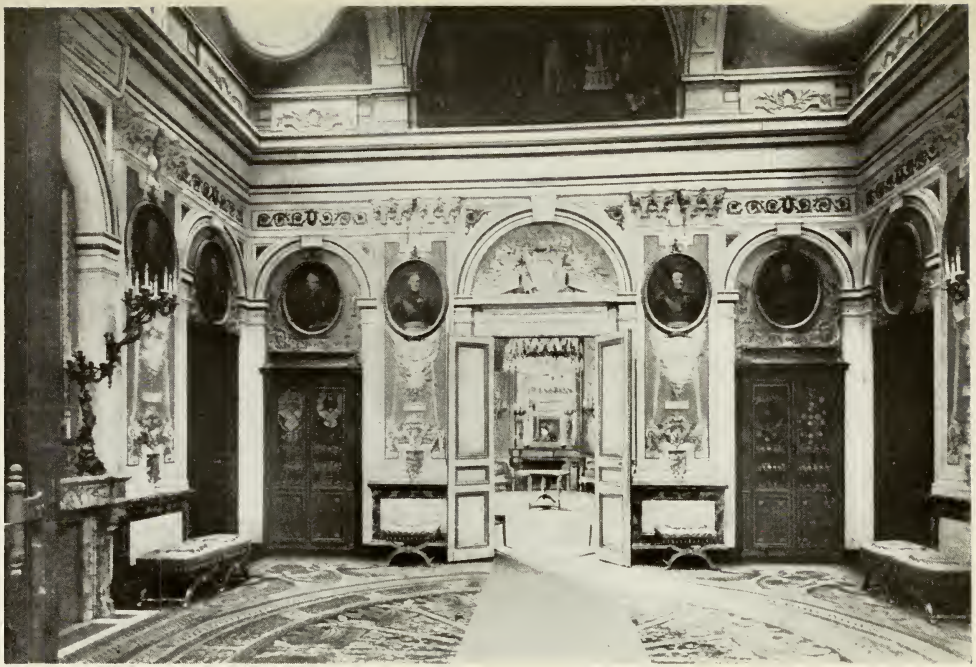
> ". . . under the evening sky
> Upon a fought field stricken lie."

Below is the inscription: "Aux Légionnaires Français et Etrangers Morts Pour le Droit et la Civilisation."

To the left of the vestibule is the room devoted to the ancient orders of chivalry which preceded the Legion of Honor in France. A mural decoration by Georges Picard, who painted many of the ceilings of the Paris Hôtel de Ville, incorporates all these orders in a symbolic decoration. A large canvas by Van Loo portrays Henry III instituting the Order of the Holy Ghost. Another by François de Troy represents Henry IV presiding over a council of this same order held in 1595. Here is displayed the faded blue ribbon of the Order of the Holy Ghost worn by Louis XVI

THE ROTUNDA, PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

ROTUNDA AND WEST WING, PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR



GRAND SALON, PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

MUSEUM OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

EMPIRE ROOM, MUSEUM OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

The Large Portrait at the Right is of "Bonaparte, First Consul" (from the Original by Ingres)

PORTRAIT OF WASHINGTON BY HEALEY
American Room, Museum of the Legion of Honor

By an Unknown Sculptor

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Marble Bust Presented to the Museum by the "American Committee for Safeguarding French Art"

By an Unknown Sculptor

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Sèvres Porcelain Bust Preserved in the American Room, Museum of the Legion of Honor

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Sèvres Porcelain

Museum of the Legion of Honor

MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE

Marble

Museum of the Legion of Honor

in prison; also the death mask of Henry IV taken 184 years after his death, when the royal tombs in St. Denis were broken open.

The room to the right of the vestibule is devoted to the Napoleonic period, and here are displayed the portrait of Bonaparte by Ingres and the painting by Yvon from the original by Gros showing Napoleon decorating some of the artists of the Salon of 1808. Among the relics are the Emperor's riding-whip and swords of honor awarded before the institution of the Legion of Honor.

Opening off the Napoleonic room is the American room, in which we find a large portrait of Washington by Healy, busts of La Fayette, Franklin, Jefferson, Lincoln and various documents and prints relating to the American Revolution. One of the walls is occupied by the cartons for tapestry painted by Casanova upon the order of Louis XVI and picturing scenes in the American War of Independence. One panel represents the surrender of "Yorck Tonn."

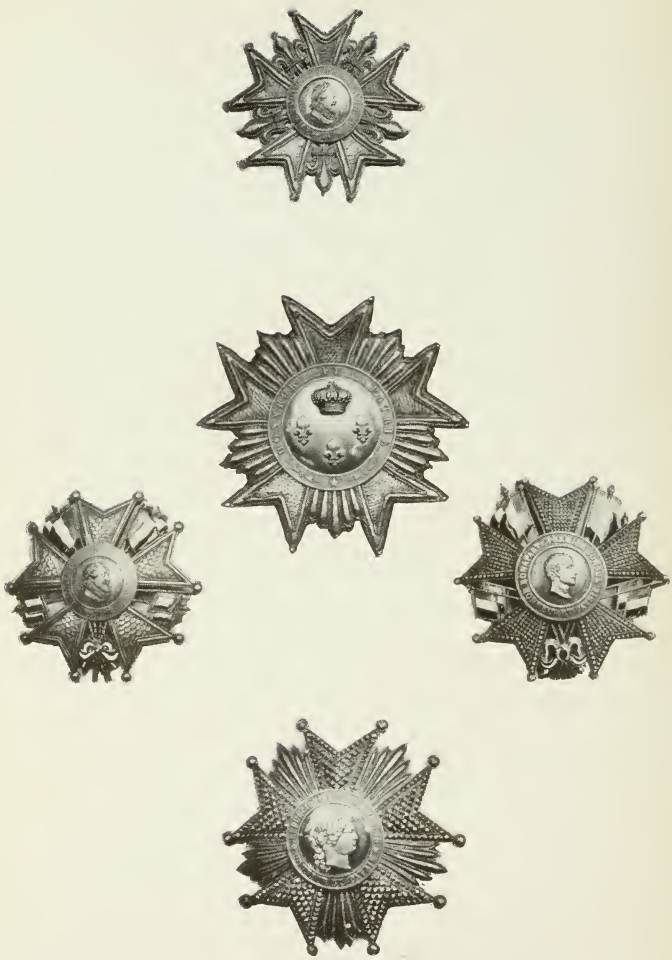
Above these more important *salles* is the room devoted to the pictorializing of the recent war and particularly of the participation in it of the United States. Here are exhibited the one hundred and four pastels by Burnand portraying the various types of soldiers of the Allied Armies and presented to the museum by Mr. Cromwell. Portraits of General Pershing, General Harbord, and other American

figures of the World War by Bouchor are also in evidence. The bust of William Nelson Cromwell by Ségoffin occupies a place of honor in appreciation of the part played by Mr. Cromwell in making possible the realization of General Dubail's idea of a Legion of Honor Museum.

VI

CHANGES IN THE INSIGNIA

Insignia of the various grades and chronological alterations — The *Collier* and some of its wearers — Orders created by Napoleon for Italy and Holland — The Order of the Three Golden Fleeces — Orders created by the brothers of Napoleon — The Legion of Honor alone to survive.



CHANGES IN THE PLAQUES UNDER DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS

VI

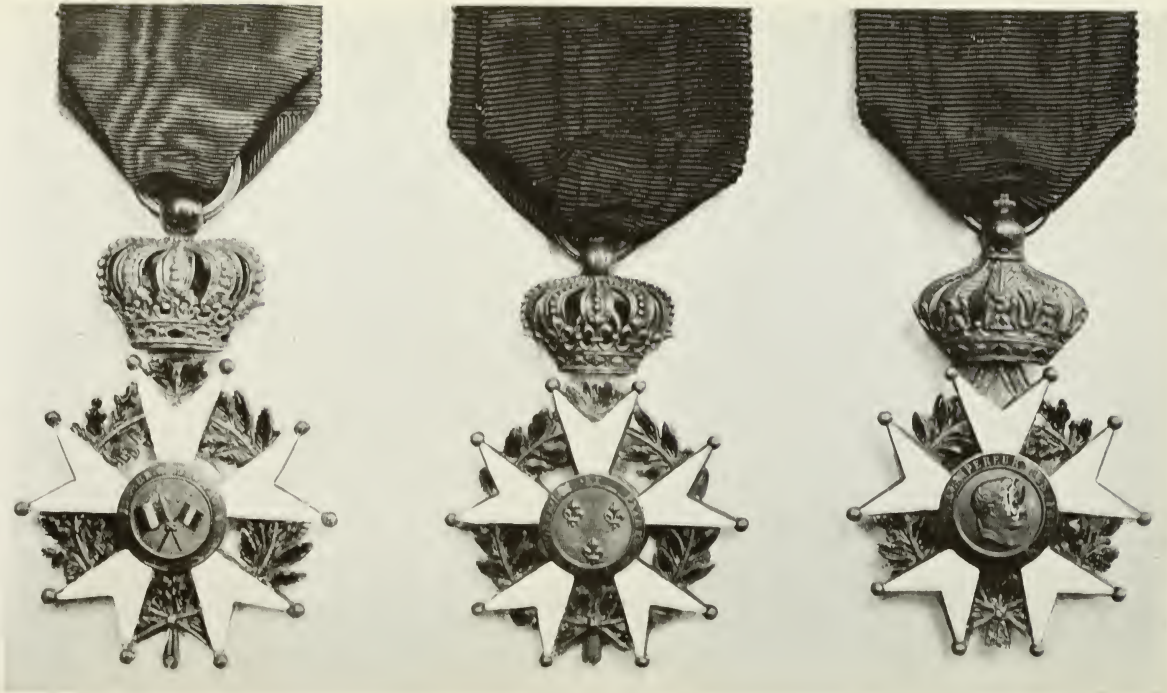
CHANGES IN THE INSIGNIA

THE Order of the Legion of Honor comprises eight different forms of insignia. First, the cross of Chevalier, in silver, created by decree of the eleventh of July, 1804; second, the cross of Officer, in gold, created on the same date; third, the cross worn around the neck, created by decree of June 21, 1814, and then intended for the Grand Officers (they were subsequently attributed to the Commanders by a special ordinance of July 19, 1814); fourth, the Grand Crosses, in gold, validated by decree of January 30, 1805; fifth, the plaques, first embroidered over the left breast of the coat and now of silver, validated by the same 1805 decree; sixth, a larger plaque, no longer in use, but originally embroidered upon the outer coat, and designed to accompany the Grand Cordon; seventh, a small plaque, first embroidered and now in silver, created for the Grand Officers and intended for wear on the right side of the coat (discontinued in 1852); and eighth, the *Collier*, a golden link-chain made of joined medallions somewhat in the manner of the *Collier* of the Golden Fleece.

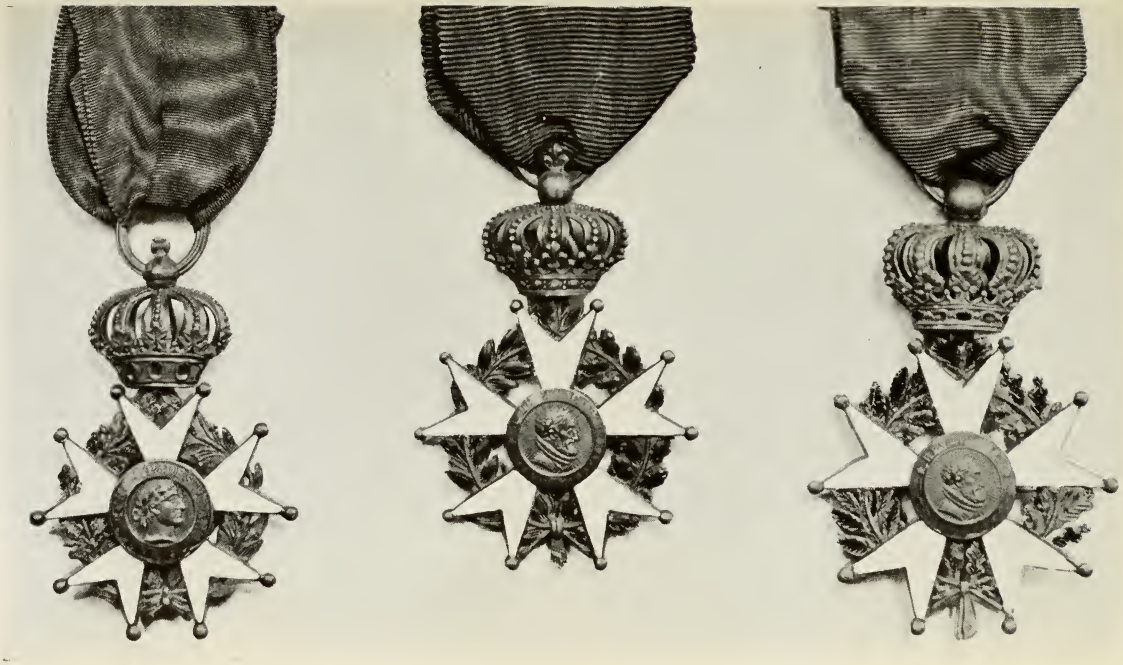
NAPOLEON'S LEGION

During the period July 5, 1804, to November 8, 1870, the cross of the Legion of Honor was subject to eight official changes based upon special decrees. Four other forms widely circulated have been recognized, altho not justified by official ordinance or decree. Among numismatists, however, there are other variations, due to the imagination, or fancy, of individual goldsmiths and these remain in collections as curios.

During the First Empire, the official type of the cross was from a design by B. Andrieu and L. Jaley which was struck off at the mint in Paris. It was a star of five double rays of white enamel, the center encircled by a crown of oak and laurel, within which, on one side, was the profile of the Emperor, and on the other the imperial eagle hurling thunderbolts. The inscriptions were: on one side, "Napoléon Empereur des Français" and on the other "Honneur et Patrie." As nothing was said about the points of the star, certain goldsmiths made a departure by tipping each point with a small round button. Some crosses are also surmounted by a crown, and this crown affects many variations. As a general thing, however, the Napoleonic crosses have sharp rays with the points untipped. A study of prints and paintings of the period shows that the crosses with rounded tips made their appearance in 1806. The portrait of Jerome Bonaparte by Gros, that of Marshal Berthier



THE CROSS UNDER THE RESTORATION, THE SECOND REPUBLIC, AND THE SECOND EMPIRE



HENRI IV DISPLACES NAPOLEON

by Pajou, and a wash-drawing by Isabey showing the Emperor and Josephine visiting the Jouy factory in 1806, distinctly represent the cross with the rays round-tipped.

The cross surmounted by the crown also dates back to 1806, but Légionnaires decorated before that date (14th of April, 1806) continued to wear their crosses with sharp points and without the crown. There are many variations in the design of the crown, some showing twelve narrow faces and others only eight.

Upon the departure of Napoleon for Elba, a royal ordinance decreed that the cross thereafter would bear on one side the effigy of Henry IV and on the other the three royal fleurs-de-lis. The supporting crown is made up of eight fleurs-de-lis. The change in the plaque for Grand Crosses consisted of substituting the three fleurs-de-lis for the imperial eagle. All the changes of this period, however, were nullified by Napoleon through a decree issued on March 13, 1814, on his march to Paris. After Waterloo and the final abdication, the fleurs-de-lis and the profile of Henry IV reappeared and remained in force until 1830. In that year Louis-Philippe, by ordinance dated August 13, removed the fleurs-de-lis and substituted therefor the motto "Honneur et Patrie" in the center of the reverse medallion. Another change in the plaque substituted, between the rays, miniature flags showing the three colors. Shortly there-

after the decoration underwent another change, the reverse medallion showing two crossed tricolor flags and the crown no longer appearing atop the cross.

Again, in September, 1848, Henry IV disappeared to be replaced by the profile of Bonaparte with the inscription "Bonaparte Premier Consul 19 Mai 1802," and the two tricolor flags on the reverse were flanked with the inscription "République Française."

On December 31, 1851, the flags disappeared, to be replaced by the imperial eagle; and on March 16, 1852, Napoleon the Third restored the cross to its original form, which was maintained during the whole of the second Empire.

With the coming of the Republic in 1870, the decoration assumed its present form, a cross of five double rays of white enamel with the tips pointed, surmounted by a crown of oak and laurel. The center medallion, circled by oak and laurel leaves, shows the profile head of the Republic with the inscription "République Française 1870," while the reverse medallion shows the two tricolor flags crossed and the inscription "Honneur et Patrie."

One form of insignia has now become a museum piece and was never worn save by Napoleon himself and a few high dignitaries of the First Empire, and then only for a short time. This is the *Collier* of the Order designed by Biennais for the coronation of Napoleon (December 2, 1804) and worn by him, and

NAPOLEON'S GRAND COLLIER

A Gem of the Goldsmith's Art, now Preserved in the Invalides

ORIGINAL DRAWING FOR THE GRAND COLLIER

The 1881 Model

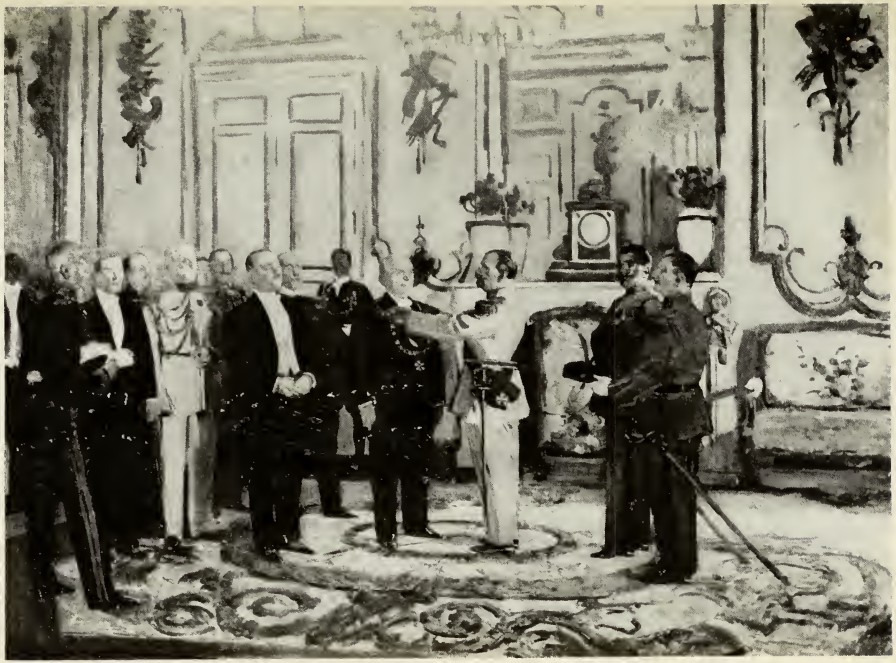
the princes whom he had just created, at that splendid ceremony. This is a gold chain composed of sixteen medallions linked together by sixteen golden eagles and joined at the bottom to a wreath of laurel enclosing the imperial initial. To this *Collier* is suspended the cross of the Legion surmounted by the imperial crown. The sixteen medallions, this number representing the sixteen original cohorts, are emblematical of Geography, Navy, Architecture, Fine Arts, Archeology, Physics, Music, Medicine, Literature, Geometry, Chemistry, Commerce, Agriculture, Infantry, Cavalry, and Artillery. Two narrow chains linked laterally to these medallions, composed of links in which bees alternate with stars, form an outer and inner edge to the *Collier*. This *Collier* was the gift of the City of Paris to Napoleon, and was bequeathed by him to his brother Joseph, who, in 1843, donated it to the Invalides, where it is now kept.

In 1881 a variation of this *Collier* was wrought by Lemoine for the then Grand Master of the Order, President Grévy. In this model the eagles are replaced by a lace-like monogram formed by the letters "R F" (République Française). The imperial bees are also absent, being replaced by miniature fasces, the Roman emblem of union. The imperial "N" gives way to the letters "R F" and the cross itself bears the effigy of the Republic instead of that

of Napoleon. Theoretically this insignia is the appanage of the Grand Master of the Order, who is invariably the Chief of the State. One of the acts in the ceremony of inauguration of the President of the Republic is the presentation to him of this *Collier* by the Grand Chancellor of the Order. It is said that Napoleon the Third wore the *Collier* on state occasions, but there is no example of a President having displayed any other insignia than those of the Grand Cross of the Order.

There are a number of paintings and sculptures preserved in various museums which show Napoleon wearing the *Collier*. In the painting by Ingres the *Collier* seems to be studded with diamonds.

In the museum at Versailles are many paintings of a historical character which permit us to reestablish a list of those upon whom Napoleon conferred the *Collier*. These are: Joseph Bonaparte, King of Spain and brother of the Emperor; Louis Bonaparte, King of Holland, also a brother of the Emperor; Jerome Bonaparte, King of Westphalia, also a brother of Napoleon; Joachim Murat, King of Naples and brother-in-law of Napoleon; Prince Camille Borghèse, brother-in-law of the Emperor; Eugene de Beauharnais, viceroy of Italy, adopted son of Napoleon; Charles-Louis-Frederick, Grand Duke of Baden, who married Stéphanie-Louise-Adrienne de Beauharnais, adopted daughter of Napoleon; Cam-



Painting by Lucien Simon

PRESIDENT DOUMERGUE RECEIVING THE COLLIER AS GRAND MASTER FROM GENERAL DUBAIL, THE GRAND CHANCELLOR

bacérès, Duke of Parma and Arch-Chancellor of the Empire; and Charles François Lebrun, Duke of Plaisance and Arch-Treasurer of the Empire.

In the famous painting by David picturing the coronation of Napoleon by the Pope in Notre Dame Cathedral, now preserved in the Louvre, the *Collier* may be seen on the Emperor, on his two brothers, Joseph and Louis, and upon Cambacérès. There is also pictorial evidence that the infant King of Rome wore the *Collier*, as did Felix Bacciochi, brother-in-law of the Emperor; Cardinal Fesch, uncle of the Emperor; Marshal Berthier, and Talleyrand.

The plaques, which are now entirely of silver, were for a long time embroidered in silk upon the coat or cloak of the titular. From 1805 until the end of the empire the metal plaque was very little used. It was not until the Restoration that the silver plaque came into favor, some, however, participating of both the metal and the embroidery. Sometimes the center is of metal, silver or gold, and the rays of the star embroidered. Occasionally the rays of the star are diamond-studded. Altogether twenty variations of the plaque are known and ten of the *Collier*.

After his coronation as King of Italy at Milan, in May, 1805, Napoleon created an order and decoration which he intended to be the equivalent for Italy of what the Legion of Honor had already become for France. This order, called the Order of the Iron

Crown, had for its insignia the crown of Lombardy surmounted by an eagle. The legend "God Gave It Me; Beware Who Touches It" was inscribed below the crown. This inscription, originally in French, was soon replaced by its Italian translation. Those admitted into the Order swore to devote themselves to "the defense of the King, the Crown, and the integrity of the Kingdom of Italy and the glory of its founder."

After Wagram, Napoleon contemplated the creation of another order which would symbolize the conquest by his eagles of the Golden Fleeces of Spain and Germany. It was to be called the Order of the Three Golden Fleeces, and the insignia were to show the Napoleonic eagle holding in its talons on one side the Spanish and on the other the German fleece. A third fleece, symbolizing France, would be held in the eagle's beak. The decree creating this order was signed by him at Schönbrunn in August, 1809, and provided for its awarding solely as a military medal. Such was the opposition, however, by the men in Napoleon's armies already decorated with the Legion of Honor to the institution of an order likely to dim the luster of the "Croix des Braves," that Napoleon reconsidered the matter and abolished the order in 1813 before any nominations had been made or insignia created.

Holland having become part and parcel of the French Empire, Napoleon continued the order and

Grande Chancellerie
de la
Légion d'Honneur

Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur.

Procès-Verbal

de l'investiture de M. le Président de la République comme Grand Maître de l'Ordre

L'an mil neuf cent vingt quatre, le treize juin ;

Nous, Général **Dubail**, Grand Chancelier de la Légion d'Honneur,

Nous sommes présenté au Palais de l'Elysée pour reconnaître, comme Grand Maître de l'Ordre, conformément [illegible] **Gaston Doumergue**, Président de la République Française.

Nous lui avons remis le Grand Collier de l'Ordre et les insignes de Grand Croix. Nous lui avons donné l'accolade et nous avons prononcé les paroles suivantes :

" Monsieur le Président, Nous vous reconnaissons comme " Grand Maître de l'Ordre National de la Légion d'Honneur ".

Immédiatement a été dressé le présent Procès Verbal que nous avons revêtu de notre signature.

Fait à Paris, les jour mois et an que dessus

Le Grand Chancelier.

Le Grand Maître.

Gaston Doumergue

Dubail

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE CEREMONY OF INVESTITURE OF PRESIDENT DOUMERGUE AS GRAND MASTER OF THE LEGION OF HONOR

decoration created by his brother Louis, King of Holland, known as the Royal Order of Union, and in October, 1811, renamed it the Order of Reunion. The insignia was a gold star with twelve rays and thirty arrows radiating from a circle in which appeared a throne supported by two lions; above the lions the imperial eagle was shown with wings extended. The reverse of this circle contained the letter "N" within a wreath of laurel. The star was surmounted by an imperial crown with the word "Napoleon" inscribed thereon. The inscriptions around the center medallion were "Forever" and "Everything for the Empire." The order had a brief duration, its life being ended by a royal ordinance dated July 28, 1815.

The various brothers of Napoleon, upon their elevation as kings, instituted orders of their own as means for rewarding the loyalty and distinguished services of their respective subjects. Louis Napoleon, King of Holland, created the Order of Union and the Royal Order of Merit. Joseph Napoleon, King of Naples, created the Order of the Two Sicilies. Jerome Napoleon, King of Westphalia, created the Order of the Crown (of Westphalia), and Joseph, progressing from King of Naples to King of Spain, created the Royal Order of Spain.

With the collapse of the Empire and the eclipse of Napoleon all these newly-made decorations disappeared. The Legion of Honor, however, sym-

bolized too many acts of heroism to share in the general obliteration of everything that recalled the fateful reign of Bonaparte. The kingly orders of Saint John and Saint Lazarus, of Saint Michel and of the Holy Ghost, of Mount Carmel and of Saint Louis, have all disappeared. They were marks of favor conferred by the sovereign as a reward for personal service rendered by subjects picked from among a special class, the nobles. The Legion of Honor has endured because it represents not personal service rendered to the particular ruler but service rendered to the State or to Humanity at large. It has survived because it is universally recognized as a reward of merit to which all may aspire. In a republic where titles are not known it constitutes a peerage of talents, virtues, and patriotism for youth to admire, respect, and imitate.

VII

FOREIGNERS IN THE LEGION

Progressive increase in the number of Légionnaires — Special legislation during the World War making number eligible to award unlimited — Distribution to foreigners — Privileges enjoyed by foreign Légionnaires — Statistics of Légionnaires by Nations — Variations in the oath under changing forms of government.

VII

FOREIGNERS IN THE LEGION

WHILE the membership of the Legion of Honor is in a state of constant flux, owing to losses through death and to new accessions created by new appointments, the enrolment is constantly on the increase. During the World War special legislation was passed removing all limits from the number of crosses which it would be possible to award. The nominations made at this time were not validated until special laws were passed in February, 1921, and May, 1923, and it is not known how many crosses were distributed for war services, but they easily outnumber all those antedating the war period. Even after the cessation of hostilities, war services continued to form the basis of most of the awards. In December, 1925, the total number of French Légionnaires was 131,334. In July, 1926, this total had been swelled to 132,438. Of these, 111,168 were Chevaliers, 18,073 Officers, 2,753 Commanders, 382 Grand Officers, and 62 Grand Crosses.

In July, 1927, the 140,000 mark was passed.

While France has been generous in distributing

the Legion of Honor among her citizens, she has been no less so in recognizing distinguished services by citizens of other countries. It is estimated that there are now nearly 22,000 foreigners entitled to wear the insignia of the Legion. An examination of the records of the Grand Chancellery shows that the honor has been conferred upon over nineteen hundred American citizens.

Among the foreign Légionnaires, British subjects lead with an enrolment of 3,174. Italy comes next with 3,157; then come Russia with 2,866, Belgium with 2,682, Spain with 1,821, and Japan with 810.

Before the war the Legion's roster contained the names of 719 Austrians and 648 Germans. These, however, were removed from the roll of the Order during the war, and as yet have not been reinstated.

Probably one reason why the United States, with over a hundred million citizens, is less favored than England with thirty-six million subjects or Belgium with less than eight millions, is found in the American law which prohibits citizens holding public office from accepting foreign decorations without a special act of Congress authorizing such acceptance. This law was relaxed to some extent during the World War, and several hundred crosses were awarded, not only to military officers, but to Red Cross officials, diplomatic agents, and volunteer workers in ambulances and works of relief.

FOREIGNERS IN THE LEGION

In order to show the universal recognition which France accords to merit of various kinds displayed by other than Frenchmen it will be interesting to note how the Legion of Honor is distributed throughout the world. In addition to totals cited above as applying to Great Britain, Italy, Russia, Belgium, United States, Spain, and Japan, the figures are as follows:

Greece	697	Luxemburg	103
Holland	686	Persia	103
Turkey	649	Siam	98
Sweden	636	Chile	85
Roumania	593	Egypt	82
Portugal	576	Canada	75
Norway	364	Bulgaria	64
Poland	334	Syria	63
Switzerland	341	Morocco	61
Argentine	175	Peru	59
China	147	Finland	48
Czecho-Slovakia	138	Cuba	46
Brazil	138		

Thirty-eight other countries find a place on the Legion's roster. The little republic of San Marino counts 23 Légionnaires, which, considering that its total population is 12,027, is a remarkable showing. The smallest nation on earth, Andorra, whose total population is 5,231, boasts of two Légionnaires.

Owing to the destruction of the records of the Grand Chancellery in the incendiary fire set to the palace by a revolutionary mob during the Commune

of 1871, it has been impossible to ascertain if Napoleon ever conferred the Legion of Honor on an American citizen. Franklin died too soon, and Jefferson would probably have refused it. The opposition about this time to the American Order of the Cincinnati and the feeling against Napoleon created by his maritime policy aimed at Great Britain but incidentally penalizing American shipping, make it unlikely that the cross was ever worn by an American during this early period.

The most careful search of the remaining archives of the Order reveals the fact that the first American carried on the roster of the Legion was Charles Goodyear, who received the decoration in recognition of his discoveries in the processes of manufacturing rubber goods, which goods were exhibited at the Paris International Exposition of 1855. Other participants in this Exposition decorated were, namely, Marshall Wood, United States Commissioner to the Exposition; A. Valentin, Maunsell Field.

In 1856 Samuel F. B. Morse, who is described as "American Professor" was made Chevalier. The records do not say whether Mr. Morse was honored for his talent as an artist or for his discoveries in the field of telegraphy. Philip Kearny, then a Major in the United States Army, is the next on record, his appointment dating back to February 1860. Another officer in the U. S. Army was honored in 1862,

Lieutenant Colonel John Gowen. In 1861 Francis Henry Saltus was made Légionnaire in recognition of his invention of a new process for making steel cannon.

The next group of Americans to receive the red ribbon owed their distinction to participation in the Paris International Exposition of 1867. They were: Elias Howe and Charles Rhodes Goodwin, manufacturers of sewing machines, Chickering of Boston rewarded for the excellence of his pianos, and the following officials attached as United States Commissioners: former Secretary of the Navy, John P. Kennedy, M. Mulat, Charles Perkins, Samuel B. Ruggles and John Laurence Smith.

Doctor Evans, the famous American Dentist who aided Empress Eugenie to escape from the mob at the Tuileries when the disaster of Sedan caused the fall of the Second Empire, was also a Légionnaire, but his record of appointment was lost together with those of many thousands when the Paris mob set fire to the Grand Chancellery in 1871.

Other early appointments were: Albert Bierstadt (1869) and William Wetmore Story (1878), the distinguished painters, Doctors Emile Brewer and William Joseph Brewer (1871), Andrew D. White (1878), Alexander Graham Bell (1881), Frédéric René Coudert (1875), Maitland Armstrong (1878), Thomas Edison (1889), James McNeill Whistler

(1892), Edwin A. Abbey (1896), and John S. Sargent (1897). The aviators Charles A. Lindbergh and Richard E. Byrd were added to the list in 1927.

While foreign Légionnaires enjoy the same prestige by reason of the small bit of red ribbon in their buttonholes as do the Légionnaires of French nationality, they may not receive any pension or monetary grant such as is enjoyed by the majority of French Légionnaires belonging to the Army or Navy. At the time when an oath of allegiance was required (previous to 1871) foreigners were exempted from taking this oath.

As regards the honors rendered to a Légionnaire on the occasion of his funeral, no distinction is made between a French and a foreign member when the latter dies and is buried in France. At the ceremonies marking the funeral of the late Paul Wayland Bartlett, the American sculptor, who died in Paris in 1925, a military escort was provided, and Mr. Bartlett's cross, displayed on a small velvet cushion, was carried in the *cortège* by a brother Légionnaire.

The foreign Légionnaires are also privileged in that they receive their diplomas without having to pay the Chancellery fee demanded of French members. Another privilege is that they may be promoted from one grade to a higher grade without submitting to the time limitations of French members, noted on page 71. Americans and other foreign Légionnaires

may be jumped from Chevalier to Commander, and even to Grand Officer, without having had to pass through the various grades. Former ambassadors Horace Porter, William G. Sharp, Hugh C. Wallace, and our present representative, Myron T. Herrick, are Grand Crosses without having had to go through the intervening grades. Generals Allen, March, Wilson; Admirals Mayo and Sims, are Grand Officers also without having had to take the intermediate steps; most of our generals who saw service in France during the war received the cross of Commander as their initial award.

While neither French nor foreign Légionnaires are asked to subscribe to the oath of fidelity which originally formed part of the ceremony of admission into the Order, it is interesting to note the different forms taken by this oath through the various governments.

The first Légionnaires, as we have seen, were asked to swear upon their honor to devote themselves to the service and defense of the Republic, and to combat any enterprise tending to reestablish the feudal régime or to restore the old titles. Then, when Napoleon became Emperor, a slight change was made, each Légionnaire swearing to devote himself to the service of the Empire and to the defense of the Emperor. From January, 1805, to March, 1811, the oath was administered with the pledge to oppose

the restoration of titles left out, Napoleon having just then created a nobility of his own by reestablishing all the former titles with the exception of Marquis and Vicomte. When the King of Rome was born, March 20, 1811, another change was made in the oath, which was couched in the following terms:

"I swear to remain faithful to the Emperor and to his dynasty; I promise upon my honor to devote myself to his service, to the defense of his person, and to the maintenance of the territory of the Empire in its integrity; I pledge myself not to attend any council or meeting likely to disturb the tranquillity of the State and to warn his majesty of any plot against his honor, his security, or the good of the Empire."

When Louis XVIII was restored to the throne, the oath was simplified to read: "I swear to remain faithful to the King, to Honor, and to Country." In 1816 this was lengthened into, "I swear to remain faithful to the King, to Honor, and to my Country, to reveal anything that might come to my knowledge of a character contrary to the service of His Majesty and to the good of the State; to accept no service and to receive no pension from a foreign prince without the consent of His Majesty; to observe all laws and ordinances and to do everything within the duty of a brave and loyal Chevalier of the Legion of Honor."

Under Louis-Philippe (August, 1830, to February,

1848), the oath was simply: "I swear fidelity to the King of France, obedience to the Constitutional Charter and to the laws of the kingdom."

During the second Republic (1848 to 1852), members of the Legion swore "Obedience to the Constitution and Fidelity to the President of the Republic."

With the coming of the Second Empire and during its life (1852 to 1870), the Légionnaire swore "Fidelity to the Emperor, to Honor, and to Country." He also pledged himself to devote himself to the good of the State and to fulfil all the duties of a brave and loyal Chevalier of the "Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor."

With the overthrow of Napoleon the Third and the incoming of the Third Republic, the oath was entirely abolished, and since that time Légionnaires are not asked to pledge themselves politically in any way.

When the fortunes of war had caused the downfall of Napoleon III and the establishment of the Third Republic, there was a momentary return to the fever of democracy which had characterized the patriots of the Republic of 1793. There were cries in the Chamber that the Legion of Honor was a violation of the spirit of equality, and several Deputies moved for its suppression. The Empire had been overthrown on September 4, and on October 20 a decree was passed maintaining the Legion of Honor but

stipulating that in future it would be exclusively reserved as a reward for military services and acts of bravery accomplished in presence of the enemy.

This removed the Legion of Honor as a mark of distinction for services rendered to the State or to humanity in letters, science, the arts, and all fields other than military, and from October 20, 1870, to July 25, 1873, the Legion of Honor remained a purely military decoration, awarded for feats of arms. This period of interruption, however, coincided with a resolve on the part of the authorities to reduce the number of Légionnaires, which had grown to nearly seventy thousand. Based upon the decree of 1852, this was an excess of more than thirty-eight thousand, and it was proposed that new crosses be awarded only on the proportion of two extinctions to one in the military branch, and three extinctions to one for civilian Légionnaires. In other words, two military Légionnaires had to die before a new military Légionnaire could be created, and three civilians before a new civilian could be decorated. The law of 1873, however, amended this and established the process of reduction on a two-to-one basis for all classes of Légionnaires. There was, of course, a loophole in that crosses could still be awarded "for exceptional services," but from 1870 to 1886 the number of Légionnaires actually decreased, there being ten fewer Grand Crosses, eighty fewer Grand Officers,

three hundred and forty-two fewer Commanders, and 7,548 fewer Chevaliers.

Altho the archives of the Legion of Honor contain complete records of the nomination of foreigners, they are not kept up to date in the matter of vacancies caused by deaths, and many are carried on the rolls for whom worldly honors have long ceased to signify anything.

VIII

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Educational institutions of Legion of Honor — Ecouen, Saint-Denis, Les Loges — Program of studies laid out by Napoleon himself — Mme. Campan — Queen Hortense as Protector of Ecouen — Visits of Napoleon and Czar Alexander to Ecouen — Conditions for admission — 800 free and 110 paying pupils.

ECOUEN, THE ORPHAN GIRLS' SCHOOL, TO WHICH NAPOLEON DEVOTED HIS BEST THOUGHT

VIII

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

ON the day following his magnificent victory at Austerlitz, the Emperor issued the following decree:

"Napoleon, Emperor of the French and King of Italy, decrees as follows:

ARTICLE I. We adopt all children of the generals, officers, and soldiers killed in the Battle of Austerlitz.

ARTICLE II. They will be maintained and educated at our expense, the boys in our palace at Rambouillet, and the girls at our palace at Saint-Germain. The boys will be subsequently placed and the girls married by us."

It was in compliance with this decree that the institutions for girls at Saint-Denis, Ecouen, and Les Loges were subsequently created. The Emperor took a deep interest in these institutions and had originally intended to have three more, one in Paris, Rue Barbette, another at Barbeaux in Seine-et-Marne, and a third at Pont-à-Mousson; but Waterloo put an end to these larger projects and only three survived.

The first was established in 1806 at the Château of Ecouen, on the outskirts of Paris, built in 1540 by the Grand Constable of France, Anne de Mont-

morency. It was confiscated in 1793 as the property of an emigrated noble and ceded to the first Cohort of the Legion at the time of the creation of the Order. The work of transforming it in 1807 for use as a boarding-school for girls necessitated the painting out of several mural paintings which were judged too frivolous for contemplation by the Emperor's new wards. Several very fine sculptured panels also were removed and are now on exhibition in the Cluny Museum. The arms of the Montmorency family were effaced and replaced by the imperial "N." In 1815 Ecouen was returned to the Condé family, but in 1851 it was restored to the use planned by Napoleon.

The Saint-Denis school was established in 1809 in the ancient abbey of Saint-Denis in the suburbs of Paris, and the cells occupied by the monks of the Benedictine Order were transformed into dormitories consisting of four lines of small iron beds stretching down a long cathedral-like perspective lighted by twenty-four monumental windows.

As for Les Loges, it was not assigned to its present use until 1811, when this royal shooting-lodge, constructed by Louis XIII on the edge of the forest of Saint-Germain, was turned over to the orphans of Légionnaires.

A letter written by Napoleon in May, 1807, and addressed to the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor, is preserved in the national archives. It

LES LOGES, ONE OF THE SCHOOLS MAINTAINED BY THE LEGION FOR DAUGHTERS OF LÉGIONNAIRES

gives eloquent testimony of the interest felt by the Emperor in these educational institutions and is worth quoting as an exhibit of the views of this versatile genius regarding the place of woman in the society of his time.

"It is imperative," wrote Napoleon, "that the establishment at Ecouen be beautiful in all that pertains to the monument and simple in all that pertains to education. Be careful not to follow the example set by the ancient establishment of Saint-Cyr, where much money was spent, and where they brought up the girls badly.

"What shall be taught to the young ladies who are to be educated at Ecouen? First, religion in all its severity. Do not permit, in this regard, any modification whatever. Religion is an important matter in a public institution for girls. No matter what may be said against it, it offers the surest guarantee to mothers and husbands. You must bring up women who believe and not women who argue. The feebleness of the female brain, the instability of their ideas, their destination in the social order, the necessity on their part of constant and perpetual resignation and of a sort of prompt and indulgent charity — all this can be obtained only through religion, through a religion that is both kind and charitable.

"I attached but little importance to religious instruction at Fontainebleau and have prescribed as

little of it as is necessary in schools for boys (Lycées). It is very different for the institution at Ecouen. Almost the only science to be taught there shall be that of the Gospel. I desire that there shall come out of Ecouen, not agreeable women, but virtuous women; I wish their accomplishments to be of morals and of the heart, and not of the intellect and of amusements.

"There must, therefore, be at Ecouen as director a man of intelligence, of mature years, and good morality; that the pupils be held each day to regular prayers, attendance at mass, and lessons in the catechism. This part of their education must be the one most carefully regulated. They must also be taught writing, ciphering, and the principles of their native tongue in order that they may know how to spell. They must be taught a little of geography and history, but no Latin or other foreign tongue whatever. The older girls may be instructed in elementary botany, physics, and natural history, and even this may have its inconvenience. In physics, limit yourself to what is necessary to prevent crass ignorance and stupid superstition, but keep within the facts and advance no arguments which do not flow naturally from primary causes. Also look into the possibility of those who have reached an advanced grade being given the administration of a certain fund for their clothing. This might accustom them to

economy, to a just appreciation of the value of things, and to the habit of being dependent upon themselves. In general, however, they must all be kept busy during three-quarters of the day in labors of a manual character: they must know how to make stockings, shirts, embroideries, in fact every sort of domestic labor. The girls at Ecouen must be brought up as if they belonged to families in the provinces with revenues of between fifteen and eighteen thousand francs a year and not likely to bring to their husband more than twelve or fifteen thousand francs as a dowry.

"Consequently, in such homes, the woman may not be indifferent or ignorant in the matter of manual labor. I do not know whether it would be possible to teach them a little medicine or pharmacy, at least such medicine as is within the knowledge of a trained nurse. It would be well also that they learn a little of that part of culinary art appertaining to the pantry. I would wish that a young woman leaving Ecouen to take charge of a home should know how to make her dresses, repair her husband's clothes, manufacture the layette of her children, nurse her husband and children when they are ill, all of which is simple enough, but demands a great deal of reflection.

"As for the clothes to be worn, it would be well to choose very common material, to which an agreeable form shall be given. I think that in this regard

the present vogue of dresses for women leaves nothing to be desired, except of course that there will be no bare arms and that such modifications will be made as are consistent with health and modesty.

"In the matter of food it cannot be too simple: a soup, a meat dish, and an entrée, nothing else is needed. I will not try as I did at Fontainebleau to make them learn how to cook; I would have too many people against me; but they should be taught to prepare desserts and whatever is suitable for luncheons. I will excuse them from cooking the dinner, but they must bake their own bread. The advantage in all this is that they are being exercised in whatever they may be called upon to do later, and that their time will be employed in utilitarian accomplishment. Their apartments should be furnished through the labor of their hands, and they must make their own underwear, stockings, dresses, and hats.

"All this is of vital importance, in my opinion. I want to make useful women out of these young girls, certain that thereby I will be making them agreeable women. I do not care to make them socially agreeable, as that would be to make them light and frivolous. When one makes one's dresses oneself one knows what to wear and how to wear it. Dancing is also necessary to the health of these girls, but it must be a special kind of dancing and not of the

SAINT DENIS, ONCE A BENEDICTINE ABBEY, NOW A SCHOOL
FOR DAUGHTERS OF LÉGIONNAIRES

stage variety. I grant them music, but only vocal music.

. . . . . .

"Men, with the one exception of the director, shall be excluded from the institution. They must not enter within its walls, no matter under what pretext. Even the gardening must be done by women. My intention in this respect is that the establishment of Ecouen shall be under as severe a rule as any convent. The head mistress herself may not receive visits from men except in the public parlor, and male parents will only be admitted in case of sickness and after having obtained a permit from the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor.

"Needless to say, nothing is as ill conceived and as harmful as the public exhibition of young girls on a platform, or the arousing of emulation by class distinction. This sort of thing is good for men, who may eventually be called upon to speak in public, and who, being under the necessity of learning many things, have need of being upheld and stimulated through mutual emulation. It is different with girls. There must be no emulation between them, and we must be careful not to awaken their passions and set their vanity into play, as this is the most active passion of their sex. Light punishment and the praise of the head mistresses for those who behave themselves well, appear to me sufficient. I dis-

approve of classification by different colors in ribbons, if it has any other meaning than to distinguish the ages and establish a sort of precedence."

The program of studies laid out by the Emperor suffered a number of alterations, however. Having submitted it to Madame Campan, this remarkable woman offered a counter project, in which she added to the classical curriculum and introduced English and Italian, study of the decimal system, and drawing and painting.

Madame Campan had been a reader to the daughters of Louis XV and first lady of the chamber to Marie Antoinette. Ruined as a result of the Revolution, she opened a school for young ladies in Saint-Germain which soon acquired a wide reputation. It was in the Saint-Germain school of Madame Campan that Josephine's daughter, Hortense Beauharnais, was educated. A report of Hortense's studies, in which she is called "citoyenne," ranks her first in dancing, second in declamation, and fourth in drawing. She is chided for a poor memory and careless handwriting. In the comments accompanying the report, Madame Campan observes that the citoyenne Beauharnais is "gifted with most precious qualities: she is good, sensible, and ever ready to oblige her companions. She is of even temper and would have everything in her favor were she less scatter-brained. She had to spend four days

in the infirmary as a result of a cut to her thumb received through carelessness. She continues to have for her parents the tenderness and admiration which they so signally merit." At the commencement exercises of the Campan School in 1798 Hortense carried off the prize for drawing, which was presented by the famous painter, Isabey. Napoleon was a frequent visitor at the school and had opportunities for estimating at their true value the high qualities possessed by Madame Campan as an educator.

This remarkable woman had the temerity to oppose some of the recommendations made by the Emperor in the letter which we have quoted, and the great man showed his good sense by yielding to her on many points. He had urged that no foreign language be taught, but Madame Campan included in the scholastic program both English and Italian. The imperial patron of Ecouen had said, "I will grant them music, but only vocal music"; Madame Campan, however, managed to introduce the study of both the piano and the harp. Whereas the Emperor opposed the awakening of a spirit of emulation among the girls, the sagacious head-mistress made direct appeal to the pride of her wards and differentiated the classes by colored sashes which provided a powerful incentive to their ambitions. "The ambition to pass from a lower to a higher class," wrote Madame Campan, "stimulates the zeal of the girls, and the sight of a

pile of sashes of various colors ready to be distributed is enough to quicken the pulse and shorten the breath of the entire school." One of the severest punishments was loss of the sash, a punishment inflicted only for the gravest offense and publicly administered much as the ceremony of degradation in the army. Madame Campan tells of an instance when one young girl so punished fainted in her arms from emotion. The sashes were green, yellow, red, and blue. To-day, however, when there are seven classes to differentiate, the colors are green, purple, rose, blue, crimson, white, and multi-colored, the green designating the lowest class and the multi-colored the highest. These sashes are worn over a costume of black wool with a black apron strapped over a white collarette of pleated muslin. The sash circles the waist and goes over both shoulders.

It had been the intention of Napoleon to place Ecouen under the official patronage of the Empress, but Josephine, sensing perhaps her approaching divorce, declined the honor, and the choice quite naturally fell upon her daughter, Hortense Beauharnais, Madame Campan's former pupil and now Queen of Holland. Queen Hortense was named Protector of the Imperial Educational Institutions on December 16, 1809, and paid her first official visit to Ecouen on March 9, 1810.

These institutions remained under the high patron-

MADAME CAMPAN

First Superintendent of the Orphanage at Ecouen

age of a member of the royal household after the fall of the First Empire. From 1816 to 1830 this royal Protector was Marie-Thérèse-Charlotte, Duchess of Angoulême, daughter of Louis XVI. From 1830 to 1848 the rôle was filled by Queen Marie-Amélie, the royal spouse of Louis-Philippe, and when Napoleon the Third proclaimed himself Emperor it was Eugénie whom he named to the post originally occupied by his mother, the regretted Queen of Holland. Napoleon himself visited Ecouen on many occasions. A detailed report of his first visit in March, 1809, relates that he arrived unannounced accompanied by the Grand Chancellor, thereby throwing into confusion not only the much flustered youngsters of the school but the members of the teaching staff themselves. Madame Campan ordered all to their posts in class, and the Emperor was taken from room to room, visiting the dormitory, class rooms, refectory, infirmary, chapel, and every other division of the school, inspecting the knitting done by the youngest girls and witnessing them all dancing at recess. In a song intoned by the whole school he was much touched at being referred to as the Father of all the fatherless children of the school. He asked to have pointed out the four most deserving pupils, and granted each a pension of four hundred francs. Before leaving, he ordered a special and extra dessert of confectionery and cakes for the following Sunday,

and the next day sent to Ecouen a load of oranges and candy. There is also the record of a visit in August, 1811, when the Emperor, accompanied by Marie-Louise and a brilliant suite, presided at the commencement exercises of the school. He also personally inspected the establishments at Saint-Denis and Les Loges, and on the occasion of a visit to Saint-Denis in 1813 he raised its head-mistress, Madame Dubouzet, to the rank of Baroness.

Louis XVIII, Charles X, Louis-Philippe, Napoleon III, and all the Presidents of the Republic since have continued the practise of inspecting the establishments. In 1896, Félix Faure created the precedent of inviting the pupils of the Legion of Honor Institutions to the garden parties held in the grounds of the Elysée, the French White House, and every succeeding President has followed his example.

The records of Ecouen mention the visit, after the fall of Paris in 1814, of the Czar Alexander of Russia, who was loud in his praise of the establishment and of its pupils. Madam Campan, in her diary, sets down a conversation with the Czar, in which she explains to him why her pupils are better educated and possess a greater degree of refinement than young women educated elsewhere:

"I told his Majesty that I attached the utmost importance to placing the girls on a footing of perfect equality. The daughters of the highest state officials

as well as those of the humblest soldier are treated exactly alike. If I observed any show of pretentions, on the score of rank or fortune, by any of my pupils, I would find means for squelching this display of stupid vanity at once. The only distinctions in the school are those won through merit and study. The girls are taught to make their own clothes and every detail of domestic management. They know about housework and cooking, but they also know that in a drawing-room it is bad manners to discuss matters of the kitchen, or servants, or the price of cheese."

In spite of the importance given to domestic science in the institutions maintained by the Legion of Honor, classical education is not neglected, and in fact a certain prestige attaches to graduates of these institutions which is lacking in the ordinary girls' lycées or private schools. The record of scholarship from 1900 to 1910 showed that seventy-nine per cent. of the pupils successfully passed the examinations for *brevet élémentaire* (high school diploma) and that eighty-one per cent. obtained a *brevet supérieur* (Bachelor of Arts). This record is significant when it is realized that the general average for all schools competing for these diplomas is fifty-three per cent.

The present organization and management of the Legion of Honor schools provides for eight hundred free pupils and one hundred and ten paying pupils, these latter paying a tuition fee of fourteen hundred

francs a year. The conditions for admission are: (1) French nationality; (2) pupils must be either daughters, granddaughters, sisters, or nieces of a French Légionnaire. They must have reached their twelfth year and not be older than thirteen at the time of the beginning of classes in October. Those nominated for admission are distributed by the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor between the school at Ecouen and that at Les Loges. They remain in these schools three years and are then sent to Saint-Denis to finish their studies. All pupils are expected to pay for their wardrobes, the sum fixed being four hundred francs, payable upon admission and covering the clothing needs of the pupil for the entire six-year period. Since 1890 a special commercial course is conducted, which includes accounting, commercial law, stenography and typewriting, filing, and office management.

IX

WOMEN LÉGIONNAIRES

Napoleon's idea of women — Women decorated for war deeds while assuming male personality — The first woman to be decorated as a woman — Some distinguished women Légionnaires — American women decorated — Special decoration for faculty members of Ecouen, Saint-Denis, and Les Loges.

IX

WOMEN LÉGIONNAIRES

NAPOLEON'S idea of women was that which prevailed in the eighteenth century and before, and we have shown by his recommendations when mapping out the educational program for the school at Ecouen that he shared Euripides's opinion that "women should be good for everything at home; but abroad, good for nothing." The talented Mme. de Genlis in 1808 petitioned the Emperor, claiming the Legion of Honor for herself, Mme. de Noël, Fannie de Beauharnais, Mme. Campan, Mme. Lebrun, Mme. Dawter, Mme. Lescat, and Mlle. Germain; but Napoleon rejected the appeal. Mme. de Staël, after intriguing against him, sought his favor, but was similarly repulsed. He had the opinion, shared by most men in his day, that the fields of science, art, letters, and politics were reserved exclusively for men, and he could have said with Samuel Johnson: "A woman preaching is like a dog's walking on his hind legs. It is not done well, but you are surprized to find it done at all."

During the Directoire, Napoleon, in his capacity of General in Chief of the Army in Italy, gave official

recognition to the bravery of two women, camp-followers of the army and known as *vivandières*, which means retailers of various food extras, particularly liquor — a sort of unofficial commissariat. One of these women was attached to each regiment. In 1797, Marie Royer, *vivandière* of the Fifty-first Brigade, received a gold chain, to which was attached a small medal, for having saved from drowning a wounded soldier who was trying to swim the river Piave. The same kind of chain was awarded to "Mother" Sarazin, the *vivandière* of the Fifty-seventh Regiment, but the records do not show what feat of heroism brought her this decoration from Napoleon.

There is also a legend according to which a number of women fighting in Napoleonic armies in men's clothes gained the Legion of Honor under a masculine appellation. In "Chronicles of French Bravery," published by Mongerie in 1812, we read that in 1806 Virginie Chesquière substituted herself for her brother, who had been conscripted into the Twenty-seventh Regiment of Light Infantry. This young woman saved the life of her captain upon the field of Wagram and was promoted then and there to the grade of Sergeant. In Portugal she duplicated the exploit by saving the life of her colonel and capturing two officers of the enemy. It was on this occasion that she was at the same time decorated with the Legion of Honor and honorably discharged from the

THE FIRST WOMAN TO WEAR THE LEGION'S CROSS

Angélique Duchemin, Thrice Wounded in the Course of Seven Campaigns

army, her sex having been discovered as she was recovering in the hospital from a severe wound. And according to Captain Richard, the author of *Vivandières Françaises*, Joséphine Trinquart of the Sixty-third Infantry was decorated during the Russian campaign for killing a Cossack who was about to dispatch her battalion chief.

There is no *official* record, however, of a woman receiving the Legion of Honor until 1851, when Angèlique Duchemin was made chevalier as "Veuve Brulon Sous-Lieutenant d'Infanterie," three times wounded in seven war campaigns. On July 14, 1852, Mme. Abicot de Ragis was cited in the *Moniteur* as having been visited by Napoleon III in the hospital where she was being treated, on which occasion the Prince-President unfastened his own Legion of Honor cross and pinned it upon her. The deed thus rewarded was the vigorous opposition offered by Mme. de Ragis to an attempt made by three burglars to set fire to the Mayor's office in the small city of Oizon. Mme. de Ragis had put the burglars to flight at the point of a pistol after she had been stabbed and painfully bruised.

The third woman to be decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honor was Sister Hélène, the Superior of the Hospital at Jouarre. Sister Hélène, in private life Mme. Dusoullier, received her decoration for Red Cross work.

The next three women to be decorated were similarly employed in the care of wounded men in military hospitals. They were Sister Barbe, in private life Mme. Jeanne Chagny, Superior of the Toulouse Hospital; Sister Jeanne-Claire, in private life Mme. Massin, Superior of the Hôtel-Dieu at Compiègne, and Sister Rosalie, in private life Mme. Rendu, Superior of the Saint-Vincent Hospital in Paris.

The first Legion of Honor awarded to a woman for other than heroic reasons was that given to Rosa Bonheur by decree of the 15th of June, 1865, in recognition of her talents as a painter. Then follow 12 women Légionnaries decorated for heroic military and ambulance work. Of these, eight were nuns attached to military hospitals.

The next woman in civil life to be admitted into the Order was Mme. Dieulafoy, decorated by decree of October 11, 1886, for her archeological work in Egypt.

The first woman to be decorated for philanthropic works was Mme. Furtado-Heine, decorated July 13, 1887, in recognition of her foundation of a number of charitable institutions in Paris.

Five of the reigning Queens, namely, those of England, Belgium, Spain, Roumania and Ethiopia are Grand Crosses of the Legion.

The first American woman to receive the Legion of Honor cross was Mrs. Potter Palmer, who was named in recognition of her participation in the

International Exposition of 1900 as a Commissioner of the United States.

With the advent of the World War opportunities were created for distinguished service by women both in ambulances and hospitals and through philanthropic activities. The French Government has been generous in recognizing work of this character done by American women. Among those receiving the honor are:

Miss Mildred Aldrich
Mrs. Gertrude Atherton
Mrs. Robert Bacon
Mrs. Jules S. Bache
Miss Edith Bangs
Miss Katherine Batcheller
Mrs. Edmund L. Baylies
Mrs. Laurence V. Benét
Dr. Violette Bergère
Miss Mary Cunningham Bishop
Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss
Mrs. George Blumenthal
Mrs. R. Blum
Mrs. Walter Stanton Brewster
Mrs. Romaine B. Brooks
Mrs. William W. Card
Miss Mary Cassatt
Miss Catherine Cerf
Mrs. William Astor Chanler
Mrs. Luisita Leland Cofer
Mrs. E. Craven
Mrs. William H. Crocker
Miss Francis Elizabeth Crowell
Miss Fanny Belle Curtis
Miss Emma D. Cushman
Miss Elizabeth Cutting
Mrs. Warren Fisher Daniell
Mrs. A. M. DeRoaldes
Marquise C. De Wentworth
Mrs. A. Murray Dike
Miss Welly Durjs
Mrs. Nina Larrey Duryea
Miss Marie J. Edgard
Miss Janet Fish
Mrs. James Carroll Frazer
Miss Helen Clay Frick
Mrs. Homer Gage
Miss Mary Garden
Miss Grace Gassette
Mrs. James W. Gerard
Mrs. Knie Gordon
Mrs. Emily F. Griggs

Miss F. Hamilton-Shields
Mrs. H. H. Harjes
Mrs. H. O. Havemeyer
Mrs. Lucy Work Hewitt
Mrs. John Jacob Hoff
Mrs. Charles Hoskier
Mrs. George Howland
Mrs. Archer M. Huntington
Mrs. V. B. Judah
Mrs. Philip Kilroy
Mrs. Elizabeth Klumpke
Mrs. Benjamin G. Lathrop
Miss Clara E. Laughlin
Mrs. Henry P. Loomis
Dr. Esther Lovejoy
Mrs. Robert Lovett
Miss Anna McIntyre
Mrs. Daniel Manning
Miss Mary Martin
Mrs. Winifred Holt Mather
Mrs. William B. Meloney
Lady Charles Mendl
Miss Monica A. A. Moore
Miss Anne Morgan
Mrs. Henry Morgenthau
Miss Emma Morhard
Mrs. Henry Morton
Mrs. T. Bentley Mott
Mrs. Ethelbert Nevin
Miss Mary Moore Orr
Mrs. Potter Palmer
Miss Elizabeth B. Perkins
Mrs. Edward McClure Peters
Mrs. Charles Prince
Mrs. Cornelia B. Sage Quinton
Mrs. Whitelaw Reid
Mrs. Douglas Robinson
Miss Elizabeth Scarborough
Miss Janet Scudder
Miss Belle Skinner
Miss Evelyn G. Smalley
Mrs. Joseph Lindon Smith
Mrs. Alma de Bretteville Spreckels
Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson
Mrs. E. Adolphe Taufflieb
Miss Camilla Treadwell
Mrs. Edward Tuck
Mrs. William Tuck
Mrs. George M. Tuttle
Mrs. Royall Tyler
Mrs. Russell Tyson
Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt
Mrs. Evelyn Walker
Mrs. E. Berry Wall
Mrs. Whitney Warren
Mrs. Edith Wharton
Mrs. Belle Whitney
Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney
Mrs. Jane M. Whitney

The majority of these women did not wait for the United States to enter the War in order to give material evidence of their sympathy for the French

QUEEN ELIZABETH OF BELGIUM WEARING SASH AND INSIGNIA OF GRAND CROSS

cause. The American Hospital at Neuilly, the American Fund for French Wounded, the War Relief Clearing House, the distribution of "La Fayette kits," the Duryea War Relief Committee, the Hatton-Châtel reconstruction; the American hospitals at Versailles, Annel, Pierrefonds, Rueil, and Ris Orangis; the American ambulances, the Lighthouse for the Blind, the American Society for the Relief of French War Orphans, the Bazaar of the Allies — all were due to the initiative of American women who refused to be neutral and gave evidences of their love for France from the very outset of hostilities.

Some of these benefactions represent collective efforts in which many workers were active under competent and enthusiastic leadership. Others, like the Stell Hospital at Rueil, near Paris, are the expression of the good-will and charitableness of a single individual. The Stell Hospital, entirely equipped and totally maintained by Mrs. Edward Tuck, who endowed it with a gift of 5,000,000 francs in French rentes, is also a permanent benefaction, its work of caring for grands blessés during the war being continued to-day and for all time with the civilian population of Rueil as its beneficiaries.

Altho not properly recognized as part of the Order, the decorations awarded to the women rendering distinguished service in connection with the schools at Ecouen, Les Loges, and Saint-Denis partake in a

measure of the prestige attaching to the Legion of Honor. The ribbon is of the same color, and the words "Légion d'Honneur" and "Honneur et Patrie" are inscribed on the reverse of the medal. Since 1881 this cross is a five-pointed star in white enamel with a blue enameled center, the whole depended from crossed academic palms.

Previously, from 1857 on, the decoration was a white cross with gold rays and an oval medallion in the center containing a picture of the Virgin on a gold background. The reverse of this medallion carried the inscription "Honneur et Patrie" circled with the letters forming the legend "Légion d'Honneur."

When this decoration was first instituted in 1816 it consisted of a white enameled cross surmounted by the royal crown and having within its angles the royal emblem of the fleur-de-lis. In the center was a picture of the Virgin with the inscription "God, King, and Country;" on the reverse were the arms of France, three golden fleurs-de-lis on a blue ground and the inscription "Maison Royale de Saint-Denis." The ribbon was of white moiré silk with a wide crimson edge.

The members of the faculty of the three schools of the Legion of Honor carry this decoration in a manner to indicate a difference in grades. The Superintendent of the Saint-Denis school wears hers attached to

the ribbon of Grand Cross worn transversely from shoulder to hip. The Intendants of Ecouen and Les Loges, the General Secretary of the Council, the Director of Studies at Saint-Denis, wear theirs suspended to the ribbon of Commander worn around the neck. The Under-Director of Studies at Saint-Denis, the Directors of Studies at Ecouen and Les Loges wear it over the left breast suspended to the ribbon of Officer. All others wear it over the left breast suspended to the ribbon of Chevalier.

The rules do not permit the wearing of the decoration outside of the school. However, in the case of an instructor leaving the school after twenty years' service she may be authorized to wear it in civil life upon the approval of the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor. In 1873 Mme. Roedel, who had been a junior teacher at Saint-Denis, was authorized to wear her decoration on the occasion of her marriage to Victor Duruy, the famous historian and former Minister of Public Instruction. At State funerals in which the ladies of the Legion of Honor participate, they are also authorized to wear their decorations.

The women chosen to direct the Legion of Honor schools and instruct the students thereof enjoy a merited prestige, and many of them have been distinguished by birth and talent. In addition to Mme. Campan, the following at various times have directed the studies of these schools: Baroness du Bouzet

(1816), Countess du Quengo (1820), Baroness de Bourgoing (1837), Baroness d'Hannery (1851), Baroness Daumesnil (1869), Mme. Le Ray, widow of Admiral Le Ray (1887), Mme. Ryckebusch (1888). Mme. Ryckebusch had spent all her life practically on the educational staff of Saint-Denis, which she entered in 1855 as a pupil and in 1862 as a junior instructor, and upon her retirement in 1896 she was awarded the cross of the Legion of Honor, a distinction then conferred upon few women.

X

HELP FOR THE NEEDY

Legion of Honor not a charitable or benevolent institution — Creation in 1921 of Société d'Entr'aide des Membres de la Légion d'Honneur — Provides for help to needy Légionnaires and their widows and orphans — Supported entirely by donations — Americans invited to join — Similar society to assist graduates of Ecouen, Saint-Denis, and Les Loges founded in 1892.

X

HELP FOR THE NEEDY

THE Legion of Honor, as conceived by Napoleon when he distributed the members of the Order into sixteen Cohorts owning and operating grants of land in various parts of French territory, provided houses of refuge and hospitals for members not in a position to maintain themselves at the end of their days; but this feature was never in reality fully established, and the Order has been, and still is, not a benevolent or charitable institution, but an honorific one, bringing spiritual rather than material reward.

The military members do receive a monetary annuity, ranging from two hundred and fifty francs for a Chevalier to three thousand francs for a Grand Cross. This allocation ceases, however, at the death of the Légionnaire, and because in the past cases have been brought to the notice of the Grand Chancellery of widows and orphans of Légionnaires living in actual want, a special fund has been created for the relief of such cases, most of the money being derived through a surplus resulting from the fees for diplomas

received by the Chancellery. These grants, however, have no continuing quality and must be applied for and renewed from year to year.

Until the World War these grants to widows and orphans did not exceed an average of 50,000 francs a year, but such was the distress created by the war and the decreased purchasing power of the franc that a private mutual-aid society was created in 1921 for the purpose of extending help, not only to the widows and orphans of Légionnaires, but to members of the Order finding themselves in want. This society, called Société d'Entr'aide des Membres de la Légion d'Honneur, created upon the initiative of General Dubail, Grand Chancellor of the Order, procures an asylum for superannuated Légionnaires in impoverished circumstances and hospital care for members in need of medical treatment. There is also in the by-laws a clause providing for the giving of financial aid by the advancing of funds, without interest, to meet emergency demands created by unforeseen circumstances. There is also a bureau which seeks to find employment of a suitable character for Légionnaires applying for placement. This bureau also tries to obtain scholarships for sons of deceased Légionnaires who are unable to complete their education because of financial reverses.

The first meeting of the society was held in October, 1921, under the auspices of Alexander Millerand, then

GENERAL DUBAIL

Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honor since 1918

President of the Republic. At that time three classes of members were created: Membres Titulaires, open to French members of the Legion; Membres Adhérents, open to widows and fatherless children of members; and Foreign Members, open to foreigners decorated with the Order and belonging to countries with which France maintains diplomatic relations. These members pay an annual fee of ten francs, but widows, orphans, and members badly mutilated in the war, may be exempted from payment of dues upon written application.

As the regular annual membership dues would produce a sum altogether inadequate for the Society's purposes, the by-laws provide that individuals who make important gifts or render notable services to the society shall have conferred upon them the title of Benefactor, or Donor. Among the benefactors who came to the aid of the society from the moment of its creation may be mentioned Mr. and Mrs. Horeau de Bonnefène, who donated 200,000 francs, together with their town residence in Paris and a large country estate at Pau. A gift of 100,000 francs was also made to the Society by Mr. Darracq, head of the famous automobile firm. Gifts of 10,000 francs were made by a number of French financial houses and large industrial organizations, and a few individual donors — among them Basil Zaharoff, M. Doistau, Louis Renault, the Baron de Rothschild, M. Deutsch de la

Meurthe, David Weill, M. Cartier, Baron Gérard, Alexander Girous, Louis Croissant, M. Menier, Maurice Delestre — contributed sums in excess of one thousand francs. A gala performance given at the Opera and attended by all the notables of France yielded a benefit of 132,000 francs.

Altho no attempt has been made to appeal to foreign Légionnaires, a number of them have, of their own initiative sent important contributions. Among the Americans listed as Donors may be mentioned William Nelson Cromwell, Robert J. Cuddihy, Augustus C. Gurnee, Eugene Higgins, Otto Kahn, W. Francklyn Paris, Percy Peixotto, Miss Belle Skinner, William Skinner, and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Tuck. Other foreign Légionnaires in this list include the Earl of Granard; General Menocal, of Cuba; M. Theunis, Premier of Belgium; M. Belisario Porras, President of Panama; the Prince of Monaco; Mr. T. G. Masaryk, President of Czecho-Slovakia.

In some countries local committees were formed which collected funds from Légionnaires of that particular country. The Légionnaires in the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes sent 10,000 francs to the society. A similar sum was sent by the Danish Légionnaires through the medium of the Minister of France at Copenhagen. The Légionnaires in the Argentine sent 9,710 francs, those of Holland, 12,000 francs.

HELP FOR THE NEEDY

In its financial report for 1926 the Society showed 2,256,849 fcs. in the treasury. This report revealed that it had distributed during the year, in the form of gifts or loans, 218,377 fcs. Relief gifts, averaging 372 fcs. each and amounting to 209,007 fcs., were distributed among 556 deserving cases. As to loans, 40,300 fcs. was advanced, the maximum in any one case being 1,000 francs. The Légionnaires listed as members of the Society in November 1926 numbered 35,606.

The Society is under the highest patronage and deserves to be helped by American Légionnaires. The invitation to join the society was originally signed by President Millerand, Premier Poincaré, Ambassador Herrick, Marshals Pétain, Joffre, Foch, Franchet d'Esperey, Lyautey, Fayolle, General Gouraud, and General Dubail. A donation of 200 francs ranks one as a life member, but it is hoped that all American Légionnaires in a position to do so, will want to qualify as Donors. This involves contributing one thousand francs. Applications for membership should be made to the general secretary of the society, 1 Rue Solférino, Paris, or to the author of this volume, who will be glad to send application blanks.

Another private society pertaining to the Legion of Honor, yet not of it, is the Association of Legion of Honor Alumnæ, created in 1892 for the purpose of doing for the young graduates of Ecouen, Les Loges,

and Saint-Denis what the Société d'Entr'aide plans to do for the aged and infirm. It has a placement bureau which endeavors to find employment for young girls in need of work, and also a system of loans and financial aid based upon a capital of about 500,000 francs assembled through dues and donations from nearly 4,000 members. These are recruited not only from former pupils of the Legion of Honor schools, but from among the wives of Légionnaires in affluent circumstances who have not had to send their daughters to these institutions.

The resources of the association, which were less than 20,000 francs in 1892, had grown to 415,000 francs by 1912. Recent detailed figures are not available, but the assets of the association are constantly on the increase, and its ability to extend aid to its wards grows in proportion. Its disbursements in the form of gifts now average 30,000 francs a year, while a similar sum is expended in loans and the purchase of materials (textiles, millinery supplies, etc.) furnished to young women eking a meager livelihood by needlework done at home.

The case of those who become beneficiaries of the Association of Alumnæ or of the Société d'Entr'aide is particularly sad, since they belong to the so-called white-collar class and are themselves, if not members, at least wives or daughters of members — wives or daughters of men whose pride has been exalted

by the wearing of a mark of distinction which singled them out as having done something beyond the ordinary and generally of a heroic nature. Such women and such men cannot consent to become chambermaids or crossing-sweepers. They owe it to themselves and to the Order to which they belong to conceal their decadence, and many suffer in silence rather than confess failure.

These two societies, therefore, exercise great discretion, and nothing is done that could in any way humiliate those they seek to help. The names of individuals applying for assistance and receiving it are not made public, and the loans that are made are made "upon honor" and without any publicity.

XI

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

The American Society of the French Legion of Honor — Earlier attempts to organize a similar society — Cooperation of Ambassador Jusserand — Correspondence between W. Francklyn Paris and Ambassador Herrick — List of founders — Ambassador Jusserand compliments Mr. Paris — First officers and directors.

XI

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

HE action of the French Government in conferring upon foreigners achieving distinction in the arts, or science, or the professions, the insignia of the Legion of Honor resulted in the creation of a company of American Légionnaires which has been growing steadily in numbers until the aggregate now is in excess of nineteen hundred.

The Americans upon whom France conferred its national order constitute a certain intellectual élite, which includes famous inventors, eminent scientists, distinguished authors, artists, educators, lawyers, statesmen, and diplomatists. Since the war, military and naval men have been added to this list in great numbers, as have occasional war heroes to whom the cross was awarded for military valor.

The idea of grouping these notables in a social organization in the nature of a college fraternity or a society like that of the Cincinnati, appealed to many upon whom the decoration had been conferred, and several times the project was started — only to be

abandoned later for reasons of petty jealousy or lack of interest.

The most ambitious of these efforts was made in 1902, when Mr. James Hazen Hyde gave a banquet in New York to the French Ambassador of that period, Jules Cambon, and where a tentative program was privately discussed. At that time the number of Americans decorated with the Legion of Honor was less than five hundred, and that may have been one reason why Mr. Hyde was not successful in organizing his proposed Society of American Légionnaires.

Several years later an effort was made by Professor James H. Gore, of Washington, D. C., who subsequently published a directory listing the citizens of the United States decorated by France with the Legion of Honor. Mr. Gore's book listed 1,750 Americans who were entitled at that time (1919) to wear the Legion of Honor insignia.

On November 8, 1922, on the occasion of a visit by the author of this book to Ambassador Jusserand in Washington, the idea was again taken up. The ambassador endorsed the idea, but expressed a doubt as to its practicability, citing among other obstacles the fact that the American members of the Legion of Honor were widely scattered over the entire United States and that at no time would it be possible to assemble two hundred of them at any meeting or ceremony.

When it was pointed out that the same objection might be raised in connection with the Society of the Cincinnati or the Sons of the Revolution, Mr. Jusserand gave way and promised to do all in his power to facilitate the formation of the proposed society.

As the society was to be recruited exclusively among Americans, and as it was desired to free it completely from French influence and control, Mr. Jusserand's aid was purely moral, and long months of personal correspondence with distinguished American Légionnaires was necessary before the project could be said to be under way. Mr. Jusserand consented to be honorary president of the society, and on November 16, 1922, the American ambassador to France, the Honorable Myron T. Herrick, was asked to accept a similar position — in the following terms:

November 16, 1922.

Ambassador Myron T. Herrick,
U. S. Embassy, Paris.

My dear Ambassador:

I know that you are keen about taking part in any movement that has as its object the welfare of France.

Can I count on you, therefore, to become an honorary president of an association which is to be recruited from several hundred Americans upon whom France has conferred the Cross of the Legion of Honor?

Your name will secure for the association the adhesion of every man and woman in the United States authorized to wear the red ribbon.

The French Ambassador as well as Mr. Liébert, the French Consul-General at New York, have accepted to hold honorary offices and I count on President Butler of Columbia University to act as President of the Society. The other officers of this association and the members of the Committees on organization, etc., will be chosen with the same care, and will be men occupying positions of prominence in the business or professional world and life of the United States.

The object of this association is the grouping together of individuals of influence who admire French qualities and are willing to champion the French cause whenever the need for such defense arises. Eventually, it is proposed to issue a monthly or quarterly bulletin, and hope is also entertained of permanent headquarters, made available through the generosity of some wealthy Légionnaire.

In the hope that you will grant the use of your name and thereby enhance the prestige which we wish to give the association, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,
(*Signed*) W. F. Paris.

To this letter Ambassador Herrick replied under the date of January 16, 1923, as follows:

My dear Mr. Paris:

I deeply appreciate the honor which you confer upon me in inviting me to serve as Honorary President of an association of the Americans upon whom France has bestowed the cross of the Legion of Honor, which you are contemplating forming in America. I should be pleased to forward the interests of any society which has for its aim "to champion the French cause whenever the need for such defense arises." I wish you all success in this admirable undertaking and I am sure that this association, with which I am pleased to be identified in this flattering way, is destined to fulfil a worthy and useful mission.

With kind regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,
(*Signed*) Myron T. Herrick.

President Nicholas Murray Butler could not be prevailed upon to accept the active direction of the society in the United States, but acceptances to act as founder-members had been received from such a distinguished group of men that there was no longer any doubt as to the eventual success of the society.

In the meantime three other separate efforts were being made to organize an association of American Légionnaries, and much tact was needed to avoid conflict and prevent confusion. In the spring of 1924 Mr. Barr Ferree announced the formation of what was to be "The Legion of Honor Society in the United States." Mr. Ferree had even prepared a draft of the constitution of the society and had nominated the first set of officers.

Working solely among women members of the Legion of Honor, Mrs. Leland Cofer in 1924 had also progressed far in the organization of an association of American women entitled to wear the red ribbon. The Hon. McDougal Hawkes had also entered the formative period of an organization intended to bring together the Americans decorated by France. All three of these projects were abandoned when it was seen that the organization launched in 1922 was ready to function.

It was not until August 1, 1924, however, that the following letter to Ambassador Jusserand could be written:

My dear Ambassador:

I am happy to report that after nearly two years of letter-writing and the interviewing of a great many distinguished but busy personalities, I have been able to accomplish the bringing together in a representative association of those Americans upon whom France has conferred the Legion of Honor.

Since conferring with you about this project in November, 1922, I have had to overcome a great deal of inertia on the part of a number of prominent Légionnaires, and the fact that the idea had been mooted several times before, and always without result, was a brake that at times seriously impeded my efforts.

I knew, however, that I had your endorsement and that buoyed me up. To-day, thanks to your encouragement and the cooperation of such men as Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Gilbert, Mr. Wickersham, Dr. van Dyke, and Dr. Finley, the American Society of the French Legion of Honor is an accomplished fact, and a new bond has been created to bind closer together France and the United States.

I am sending you the text of the incorporation papers. Those who stood sponsors for the new society, as incorporators, were: John H. Finley, James W. Gerard, Cass Gilbert, George W. Goethals, William D. Guthrie, Bishop Manning, Edward R. Stettinius, George W. Wickersham, and your humble servant.

The by-laws of the society, not yet adopted, have a clause making election conditional upon a two-thirds vote. This is in keeping with the practise of all American social or fraternal associations and is in no sense an attempt at making the society an exclusive affair. In principle all Légionnaires will be admitted to membership and it will take a good and valid reason to move one-third, and more than one-third of the Board to exclude an applicant. Personal enmity of one or two members will be ineffectual in keeping a proposed Légionnaire out of the society.

The meeting for the election of officers and directors will

be held in September and I will keep you informed of developments as they occur.

With best personal regards, believe me,

Yours most sincerely,
(*Signed*) W. F. Paris.

The first election of officers and directors was held on October 9, 1924, in the writer's studio, then at 53 West 39th Street, New York, and resulted in the choice of the following:

President d'Honneur
J. J. Jusserand

President
Myron T. Herrick

Vice-Presidents

Cass Gilbert
Wm. Nelson Cromwell
William D. Guthrie
John Grier Hibben
Henry T. Mayo
John F. O'Ryan
George W. Wickersham

Secretary and Treasurer
W. Francklyn Paris

Directors

William W. Atterbury
James M. Beck
Frederic R. Coudert
William H. Crocker
Wm. Nelson Cromwell
Frederick Cunliffe-Owen
Chauncey M. Depew
Pierre S. duPont
John H. Finley
James W. Gerard
Cass Gilbert
George W. Goethals
William D. Guthrie
Myron T. Herrick
John Grier Hibben
William T. Manning
Henry T. Mayo
John F. O'Ryan
W. Francklyn Paris
Frank D. Pavey
Edward R. Stettinius
Henry van Dyke
Samuel M. Vauclain
George W. Wickersham

Mr. William D. Guthrie, a former president of the Bar Association of New York and one of the most distinguished lawyers of the United States, assumed the task of drawing up the constitution and by-laws of the society and donated his services in getting the society incorporated. The writer gave the use of his business office to the society for its headquarters, and dues were fixed at five dollars a year to cover printing, postage, and clerical expenses.

The incorporation papers were approved by Richard P. Lydon, Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, July 17, 1924, and were filed with the Secretary of State of New York on August 2, 1924, with the following signing as incorporators: John H. Finley, James W. Gerard, Cass Gilbert, George W. Goethals, William D. Guthrie, William T. Manning, Edward R. Stettinius, George W. Wickersham, and W. Francklyn Paris.

The objects and purpose of the society are stated in the certificate of incorporation as follows:

(a) To provide a social and fraternal medium by which members of the French Order of the Legion of Honor who are resident in the United States may cooperate in taking such action as from time to time shall seem to them likely to promote and uphold the prestige and standards of said Order.

(b) To encourage in the United States studies relating to France, its customs and people; to promote appreciation in the United States of French works, and in France of American works, and generally do everything tending to

strengthen friendship between the peoples of the United States of America and France.

(c) To acquire such property, real or personal, as may be expedient for the due and proper fulfilment of these purposes.

The American Légionnaires who accepted the invitation to become founder-members of the society were:

Rev. Dr. Henry van Dyke
John H. Finley
Cass Gilbert
Rodman Wanamaker
George W. Wickersham
Wm. D. Guthrie
Samuel M. Vauclain
Franklin d'Olier
John Grier Hibben
Frederick MacMonnies
William Skinner
W. DeLancey Kountze
Thomas Hastings
Daniel Chester French
Frederic R. Coudert
Livingston Farrand
Charles M. Schwab
Admiral Henry T. Mayo
Major U. S. Grant, 3rd
George Eastman
Paul W. Bartlett
William H. Crocker
Edward Tuck
Chauncey M. Depew
Arthur Woods
John Foster Dulles
Dr. William W. Keen
Dr. William H. Welch
David Jayne Hill
Rt. Rev. William T. Manning
John F. O'Ryan
William J. Wilgus
John B. Cauldwell
Rt. Rev. James H. Darlington
Hanford MacNider
George W. Goethals
Robert Underwood Johnson
James W. Gerard
John J. Carty
William W. Atterbury
Admiral Henry B. Wilson
Admiral William S. Benson
Clarence H. Mackay
Pierre S. duPont
Rev. F. Landon Humphreys
Gen. Robert Alexander
Frank D. Pavey
John H. Fahey
John H. Wigmore
Edward R. Stettinius
Gari Melchers
Frederick Cunliffe-Owen
Dwight W. Morrow
Wm. Nelson Cromwell
James K. Hackett
Ogden Reid
Thomas Lamont

Thanks to the active cooperation of these men of high character and influence, and also to the moral support of Ambassador Jusserand and former Consul-General Gaston Liébert, now Minister Plenipotentiary, the American Society of the French Legion of Honor was organized and a new monument to Franco-American amity erected on a firm base. Mr. Jusserand on October 10, 1924, in answer to a telegram announcing the results of the first organization meeting of the society, sent the kindly letter that follows:

My dear Mr. Paris:

Your telegram is most welcome, and I doubt not that, born under such auspices, so well officered, and everybody animated by such a sincere good will, the Society will do excellent work and be an honor to its promoters and founders and especially to its secretary.

I see that the fusion has been accomplished and that no rival society is to be feared.

I offer you my heart-felt thanks and compliments and beg you to believe me,

Most sincerely yours,
(*Signed*) JUSSERAND.

If any impression has been created through the reproduction of this correspondence that the writer claims for himself unusual credit for the formation of the Society, let it be stated once for all that nothing is further from his intention. Without the continuous and almost week-to-week encouragement and co-operation of such men as George W. Wickersham,

William D. Guthrie, Rodman Wanamaker, Cass Gilbert, Frederic Coudert, General Goethals, William Nelson Cromwell, Ambassadors Gerard and Johnson, John H. Finley, Henry van Dyke, and Ambassador Jusserand, the writer would not have been able to realize his purpose, and he does not hesitate to make public acknowledgment of this fact. The American Society of the French Legion of Honor is a success because it is *not* a one-man organization. It is the expression of a collective sentiment of sympathy for France, and of loyalty to the principles underlying the French National Order.

XII

AMERICA'S ROSTER

Roster of Americans upon whom France has conferred the Legion of Honor, compiled from official records preserved in the Grand Chancellery and going back to 1871.

ADDENDA

LUCIUS BOOMER
JOHN McENTEE BOWMAN
WILLIAM C. BREED
C. FRANK CHICKERING
WALTER P. COOKE
ETHAN ALLEN DENNISON
HERBERT JOHN DEUTZ
WILLIAM T. DONNAT
JAMES STUART DOUGLAS
ARTHUR HENRY FLEMING
HARRY GLEMBY
MRS. FRANK J. GOULD
THOMAS D. GREEN
CHARLES HANN, JR.
JOHN HAY
DAVID E. HUGHES
ARCHER MILTON HUNTINGTON
CHARLES LALIER LAWRENCE
JOHN H. McFADDEN, JR.
JAY JOHNSON MORROW
SIMON NEWCOMB
GEORGE FRANKLIN RAND
MRS. THEODORE SELTZER
E. M. STATLER
THOMAS GEORGE STOCKHAUSEN
GEORGE W. SWEENEY
WILLIAM GEORGE UNGERER
ARTHUR WILLIAMS

XII

AMERICA'S ROSTER

THE following list of the American Légionnaires is probably incomplete, particularly as decorations are awarded at the same time by the Minister of Foreign Affairs direct and through the recommendation of the French Ambassador at Washington. It has occurred that appointments made by way of Washington were months in reaching the Grand Chancellery. The list as given, is as nearly correct, up to December 31, 1927, as careful examination of official records could make it:

HARRY JEFFERSON ABBETT
EDWIN A. ABBEY
LYMAN ABBOTT
HERBERT A. ABELE
HERBERT HAMILTON ACHESON
CHARLES WALDO ADAMS
FRANK HOWARD ADAMS
HERBERT H. ADAMS
MILWARD ADAMS
KEITH FRAZEE ADAMSON
JULIUS OCHS ADLER
FELIX AGNUS
MILDRED ALDRICH
WILLIAM T. ALDRICH
CHARLES B. ALEXANDER
JAMES STRANGE ALEXANDER

JAMES THOMAS ALEXANDER
JOHN W. ALEXANDER
ROBERT ALEXANDER
ROBERT C. ALEXANDER
FREDERICK M. ALGER
E. G. ALLEN
FREDERICK HOBBES ALLEN
HENRY T. ALLEN, JR.
HENRY TUREMAN ALLEN
OLIVER ALLEN
WALTER C. ALLEN
EDWARD PHELPS ALLIS, JR.
EDWARD C. ALLWORTH
FRANK ALTSCHUL
CHARLES W. AMES
JAMES M. ANDERS
ALEXANDER ANDERSON
ELDON ANDERSON
GEORGE S. ANDERSON
MILTON H. ANDERSON
WILLIAM F. ANDERSON
A. PIATT ANDREW
AVERY D. ANDREWS
LINCOLN CLARK ANDREWS
MONTE APPEL
DONALD ARMSTRONG
EDWARD COOKE ARMSTRONG
EDWIN H. ARMSTRONG
FRANK S. ARMSTRONG
MAITLAND ARMSTRONG
ALFRED C. ARNOLD
ISAAC SEABORN ASHBURN
PERCY M. ASHBURN
T. Q. ASHBURN
MRS. GERTRUDE ATHERTON
BERT M. ATKINSON
W. W. ATTERBURY
WILLIAM B. ATWATER
WILLIAM GREENE ATWOOD
CHARLES LOUIS AUGER

GEORGE PERCIVAL AULD
DWIGHT E. AULTMAN
JOHN T. AXTON

EDWIN B. BABBITT
FRANK L. BABBOTT
CONRAD S. BABCOCK
EARLE B. BABCOCK
JOHN V. BABCOCK
WARREN LA VERNE BABCOCK
CHRISTIAN A. BACH
JAMES J. BACH
JULES S. BACHE
MRS. JULES S. BACHE
HENRY S. BACON
ROBERT BACON
MRS. ROBERT BACON
L. H. BAEKELAND
PAUL FRANK BAER
CHARLES JUSTIN BAILEY
ARTHUR BAILLY-BLANCHARD
WILLIAM SEAMAN BAINBRIDGE
ABSALON BAIRD
ASHER CARTER BAKER
FRANK PARDEE BALDWIN
JAMES MARK BALDWIN
WILLIAM G. BALL
GEORGE S. BALLARD
CHARLES C. BALLOU
HORACE BALSLEY
FRANK E. BAMFORD
HARRY HILL BANDHOLTZ
MISS EDITH BANGS
JOHN KENDRICK BANGS
WILLIAM BRODNAX BANISTER
C. W. BARBER
HENRY A. BARBER, JR.
ROBERT F. BARBER
FRANK LUSK BARBOTT
JAMES ROBERTSON BARBOUR

NAPOLEON'S LEGION

LORNE WEBSTER BARCLAY
BYRON LAKIN BARGAR
GEORGE FREDERICK BARKER
JOHN W. BARKER
ALBERT H. BARKLEY
ALFRED DICKINSON BARKSDALE
CHARLES INMAN BARNARD
FREDERICK AUGUSTUS PORTER BARNARD
JULIUS H. BARNES
GEORGE BARNETT
GEORGE C. BARNHARDT
MALVERN HILL BARNUM
DAVID PRESCOTT BARROWS
SMITH BARRY
CHARLES H. BARTH
G. GORDON BARTLETT
MURRAY BARTLETT
PAUL WAYLAND BARTLETT
S. POTTER BARTLEY
HENRY GEORGE BARTOL
ALFRED I. BARTON
BERNARD M. BARUCH
LOUIS H. BASH
GEORGE SHERMAN BATCHELLER
MISS KATHERINE BATCHELLER
FREDERICK BATE
HENRY E. BATEMAN
ALFRED E. BATES
LINDON WALLACE BATES
ROBERT J. BATES
MARION SOMERVILLE BATTLE
HAROLD BAUER
STUART ALEXANDER BAXTER
MRS. EDMUND LINCOLN BAYLIES
HUGH A. BAYNE
CHARLES FISK BEACH
S. H. BEACH
WILLIAM D. BEACH
TARLETON BEAN
H. I. BEARSS

AMERICA'S ROSTER

H. OSCAR BEATTY
JOHN WESLEY BEATTY
LOUIS DUDLEY BEAUMONT
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Showing some of the Portraits of American Leaders and Groups of Doughboys in Action

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Painting by J. F. Bouchor

GENERAL HARBORD, CHIEF OF STAFF, U. S. A., WITH COLONEL M'COY AND TWO FRENCH OFFICERS

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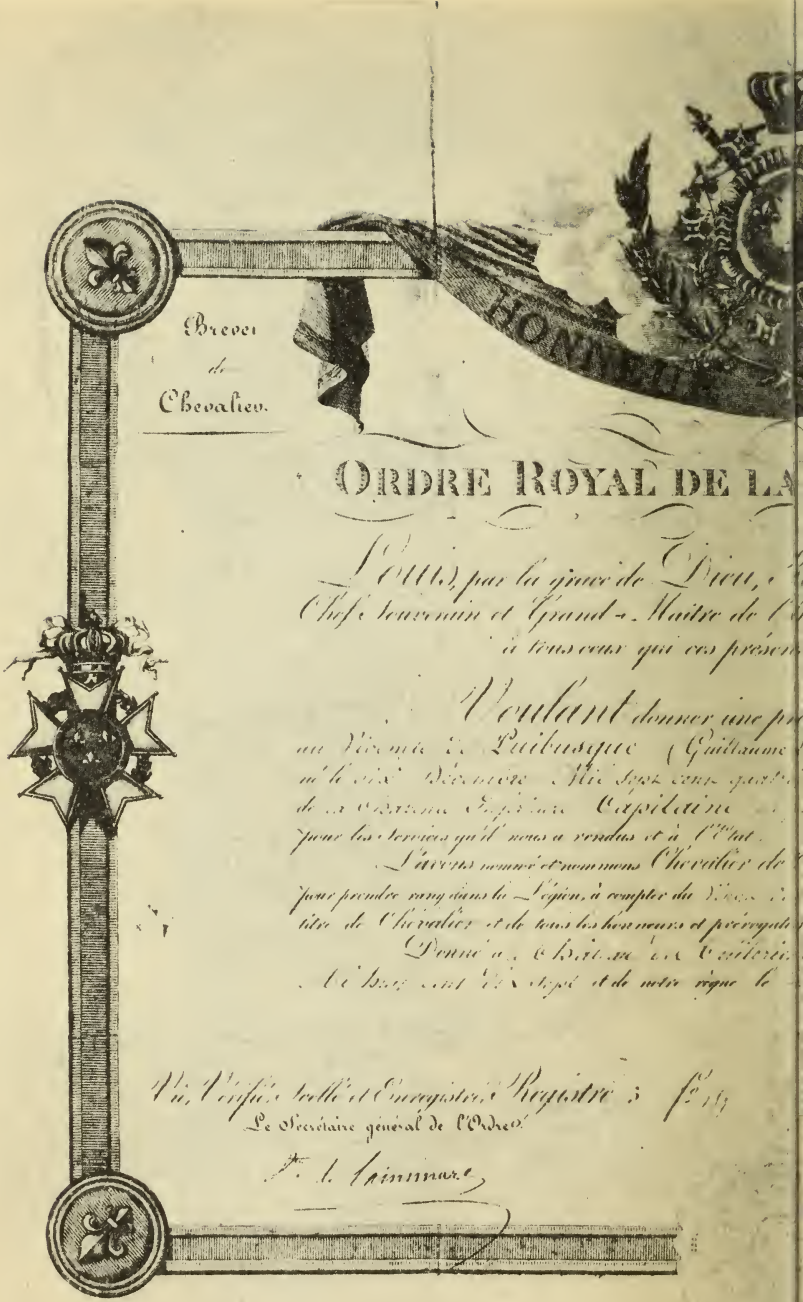
Brevet
de
Chevalier.
ORDRE ROYAL DE LA
Louis par la grace de Dieu,
Chef souverain et Grand-Maître de l'
à tous ceux qui ces présen
Voulant donner une pr
au Vicomte de Puibusque (Guillaume
né le cinq Décembre Mil sept cent quatre
de la Garde Royale Capitaine
pour les services qu'il nous a rendus et à l'Etat
Savons nommé et nommons Chevalier de
pour prendre rang dans la Légion, à compter du Vingt
titre de Chevalier et de tous les honneurs et prérogati
Donné à Bruxelles en Conseil
le Vingt cent Vingt sept et de notre règne le
Vu, Vérifié, Scellé et Enregistré au Registre : f° 19
Le Secrétaire général de l'Ordre
F. L. Saimmaz

DIPLOMA OF CHEVALIER, SIGNED BY

Série 5
N.° d'ordre 7141

LÉGION D'HONNEUR.

de France et de Navarre,
dre Royal de la Légion d'Honneur,
verront, Salut.

e de notre Satisfaction Royale
nais)
à la Rochelle, Département
au régiment de hussards à bord duquel il a navigué
dre Royal de la Légion d'Honneur,
dite Soit brevet accordé et pour lui
qui y sont attachés.
Cinq Décembre de l'An de grace
dix-huit cent dix-sept.

Louis.

Par le Roi, Chef, Souverain et Grand Maître.
Le Grand Chancelier de l'Ordre Royal de la Légion d'Honneur.

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